



PGA CHAMPIONSHIP
As the tournament reaches a milestone, could it be Tiger's time to win again?
Back page

EUROPE
US, allies continue exercise in Georgia as Russia issues warning
Page 6

MILITARY
Turkish lawyers file charges against American officers
Page 2

Nation: High-stakes elections in Ohio, Kansas too close to call » Page 8

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Hotline offers veterans local help no matter where they live

By ROSE L. THAYER
Stars and Stripes

SAN ANTONIO — Sandra Davis left her 15-year Army career behind in 2014 to care full time for her sick mother, who lost her battle with cancer in June.

"I'm trying to get back on my feet," the San Antonio resident said, after caring for her mother left her emotionally exhausted and financially drained.

Some fellow veterans and her mother's caregivers from hospice recommended she call 211, a hotline run by the United Way of San Antonio and Bexar County. It's part of the nonprofit's nationwide hotline, where anyone can call to get information about social services in their area. Referrals can help attain access to low-cost physical or mental health treatment facilities, apply for government assistance, find nonprofits offering financial support to pay for rent or utilities, or locate a food bank. Overall, 211 is accessible to about 94 percent of the U.S. population.

In San Antonio, if 211 call specialists identify the caller as a veteran, they can move them into the Mission United program.

SEE HOTLINE ON PAGE 5

‘Typically, when I speak with the veteran, they are just very grateful that there was somebody out there who cared enough to follow up with them.’

Juliana Stith

Navy veteran and military call specialist for San Antonio's 211, part of the United Way's national hotline



Firefighting from above

Air National Guard using drones to provide live intelligence on California blaze

By JACLYN COSGROVE
Los Angeles Times

WAWONA, Calif. — The smoke creeping up from a steep hillside near this small community 27 miles south of Yosemite Valley was a sure sign a spot fire was burning, hidden beneath the tall pine trees.

In years past, firefighters might have proceeded with the limited information provided by a helicopter operator struggling to see through the haze.

Instead, the Air National Guard air-

‘For firefighting, it’s a game changer, no doubt. And it’s only going to get better.’

Damian Guilliani
situation unit leader on
California Interagency Incident
Management Team 4, which
helped battle the Ferguson fire

craft with infrared capability flying thousands of feet above the Ferguson Fire was able to determine that firefighters were facing not one spot fire but seven quickly growing together.

Amid weeks of blazes and heat waves that have shattered grim records across California, the Ferguson Fire has made good history: It marked the first time incident commanders battling a wildfire have been able to tell firefighters what was being reported from high above the fire in exact detail in near real time.

SEE ABOVE ON PAGE 10

An aircrew from the 163rd Attack Wing, California Air National Guard, flies an MQ-9 Reaper remotely piloted aircraft to the Mendocino Complex Fire in Northern California on Saturday during a mission to support state agencies.

CRYSTAL HOUSMAN/Courtesy of the U.S. Air National Guard

MILITARY

Turkish lawyers target US servicemembers

By WILL MORRIS
Stars and Stripes

A group of pro-government lawyers in Turkey have filed charges against several U.S. officers associated with Incirlik Air Base, seeking their arrest for alleged ties to terrorist groups.

The accusations come amid increased tensions between the U.S. and Turkey, a NATO ally that has cracked down in recent years on political opposition, shut down media outlets and tightened control of the court system, according to international aid groups.

The lawyers are seeking a temporarily halt to all flights leaving the base and access to execute a search warrant, according to court papers filed last week by the

Association for Social Justice and Aid. The group is a well-known, nongovernmental organization made up of backers of Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan.

The Stockholm Center for Freedom, a group of exiled journalists from Turkey, said that the warrants were likely filed in response to the U.S. levying economic sanctions on Interior Minister Süleyman Soylu and Justice Minister Abdulhamit Gül for their roles in the detention of American pastor Andrew Brunson.

Brunson has been held in prison since October 2016 on charges of belonging to a terrorist organization, allegations that the U.S. government and international human rights organizations refute.

The U.S. imposed the sanctions after Turkey refused to free Brunson, who was

last week moved from prison to house arrest in Izmir for pretrial detention.

Erdogan has publicly linked the release of Brunson to a request for the U.S. to deport Muhammed Fethullah Gulen, a Muslim religious leader living in Pennsylvania that the Turkish government says is responsible for the July 15, 2016, coup attempt in Turkey.

The court papers accuse the American officers and NCOs cited of having connections to the FETO group allegedly run by Gulen and trying to "destroy the constitutional order" of Turkey.

The 60-page criminal complaint seeks the arrest of Col. John C. Walker, Col. Michael H. Manion, Col. David Engelen, Col. David Trucks, Lt. Col. Timothy J. Cook, Lt. Col. Mack R. Coker and Sgts. Thomas

S. Cooper and Vegas M. Clark.

Gen. Joseph Votel, the commander of the U.S. Central Command; retired U.S. Army Gen. John F. Campbell; and Air Force Brig. Gen. Rick Boutwell, director of regional affairs for the deputy under secretary of the Air Force, were also named in the complaint.

The Air Force said it is aware of the reports but referred all questions to the Turkish government for comment.

"We continue to carry out our mission here at Incirlik Air Base, and we are proud of the relationship we have with our Turkish military partners," said Air Force Capt. Amanda Herman, spokeswoman for the base.

morris.william@stripes.com

Okinawa's anti-base Gov. Onaga dies of cancer

By MATTHEW M. BURKE
AND AYA ICHIHASHI
Stars and Stripes

CAMP FOSTER, Okinawa—Okinawa's anti-U.S. base governor died of pancreatic cancer Wednesday evening, less than two hours after officials announced he would step down temporarily due to health concerns.

Gov. Takeshi Onaga, 67, was pronounced dead at 6:43 p.m. at Urasoe Hospital, according to the Ryukyu Shimpo newspaper. Other Japanese media outlets also reported the death, citing a source close to the governor.

No one answered calls to the governor's office on Wednesday evening, and no public officials had commented about the death.

It is unclear who will take over governing duties for the southern island prefecture.

At 5 p.m. Wednesday, vice governor Kichiroh Jahana held a press conference at

the prefectural office to announce that Onaga would be temporarily stepping down. He reportedly experienced "delirium" Tuesday and had previously directed his staff to take over his duties should he become incapacitated.

Jahana was scheduled to assume the governorship on a temporary basis until Sunday.

After that, Onaga's other vice governor, Moritake Tominaga, was to take on the role "until further notice."

The governor's election is scheduled for November, Jahana said.

Onaga went public with his health issues in April after an operation and had been undergoing chemotherapy ever since. He



Onaga

had been hospitalized since June 30, Okinawa Television Broadcasting reported Wednesday. His cancer spread to his kidneys and liver, causing the disorientation.

Onaga had previously survived a bout with cancer, according to Japan's Sankei newspaper.

Upon its return, he took some time off from his duties in the spring.

Members of the public were shocked by his emaciated frame at June 23's annual Battle of Okinawa Iri no Hi ceremony.

Onaga was swept into office in November 2014 on a wave of popular support. He defeated incumbent Hirokazu Nakaima by 100,000 votes on a platform that vowed to block relocating Marine Corps air operations within the prefecture and sought the removal of MV-22 Osprey tilt-rotor aircraft.

Upon taking office, Onaga quickly assumed the mantle of protest governor. He

caused significant delays in moving Marine Corps Air Station Futenma to the remote northern coastal base of Camp Schwab with a series of unsuccessful court challenges, the most recent ending in March.

On July 27, he unveiled a late-hour plan to once again attempt to revoke permitting for the project over environmental concerns. The move is seen as a last-ditch effort to stop the relocation.

Landfill for the runway into Oura Bay that will facilitate the move was slated to begin Aug. 17.

A hearing had been planned for Thursday afternoon regarding the decision. The governor's office said Wednesday that the meeting would take place as planned.

Onaga was the seventh official governor of Okinawa since its reversion from U.S. control in 1972.

burke.matt@stripes.com
ichihashi.aya@stripes.com

TODAY IN STRIPES

American Roundup	17
Business	12
Classified	19, 23
Comics	22
Crossword	22
Faces	18
Opinion	20
Sports	25-32
Weather	12

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MILITARY

Lost medals returned to vets at ceremony

By CLAUDIA GRISALES
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — Army Staff Sgt. Michael T. Jeffrey was wounded in Iraq in 2006 when a rocket-propelled grenade hit his Humvee, leaving him with a series of back and neck surgeries, traumatic brain injury and post-traumatic stress disorder.

The Iowa native received a Purple Heart in 2012 at the Warrior Transition Unit at Fort Knox, Ky., where he had been recovering from injuries. But when Jeffrey received his award, he took it in haste and immediately left the building. He was distracted; his father was dying.

It wasn't until Jeffrey made it home that he realized it wasn't his medal. It was inscribed with someone else's name.

On Tuesday, nonprofit Purple Hearts Reunited, which returns lost medals to veterans, righted that wrong in an emotional official ceremony to bestow the honor.

"I sent the medal back because it didn't have my name on it," Jeffrey, 40, told a crowd of veterans and families gathered at the Reserve Officers Association building on Capitol Hill. But "I know I'm going to walk away today with a Purple Heart reunited."

Jeffrey's official citation was read, and his brother, Sgt. 1st Class Joseph Jeffrey, participated in Tuesday's ceremony. The two, who served in Iraq, together then embraced and remembered their late father, who "was looking down," Joseph Jeffrey said.

"It was awesome," Joseph Jeffrey, 36, said after the ceremony. "[We are lucky] my brother is still here."

Jeffrey was one of eight Purple Heart recipients honored Tuesday at an event called "Eight



Above: Retired Army Staff Sgt. Michael T. Jeffrey, left, reacts to a display containing his military service medals presented to him as a gift after he received a Purple Heart during a ceremony in Washington on Tuesday. Applauding is Jeffrey's brother, Army Sgt. 1st Class Joseph Jeffrey. Left: Air Force veteran Joseph M. Hish Jr., 90, holds back tears as he touches a special gift he received during Tuesday's ceremony.

PHOTOS BY CARLOS BONGIOANNI/
Stars and Stripes

on the Seven" for Aug. 7, which marks Purple Heart Day, a celebration of the military's oldest award. Purple Hearts Reunited

brought together some families of the recipients, though many of them are gone, to award the medals and recognize their stories of

courage.

The Purple Heart is awarded to servicemembers wounded or killed in action.

"It's a miracle to come and be here," said Myrle Totty, who traveled from Fort Worth, Texas, to accept the Purple Heart on behalf of her late father, Army Sgt. 1st Class Billy Evans. "It's a second miracle to have this honor for my father."

Evans received the honor in 1967 for his valorous actions during the Vietnam War as a special forces adviser who took on heavy fire while deep in hostile territory and was later wounded. Evans later lost his medal at a convention and spoke at length about the loss with his daughter.

"He was so devastated," Totty, 64, remembered.

Marcia Trawick praised the group's recognition of her uncle, Army Sgt. Thomas Maynard Williams Jr., for his service and Purple Heart award during World War II.

"I am really honored," she said.

Purple Hearts Reunited, which was founded in 2012, has undertaken difficult searches to locate the relatives of recipients who have lost their Purple Hearts. Once the lost awards are found, the group works to replace them.

"I thought it was a telemarker and almost hung up," Air Force veteran Sgt. Joseph M. Hish Jr., 90, said about the organization's initial phone call to him. "How they ever found me, I don't know. I'm in a 1,600-population town in Nebraska."

Hish received the Purple Heart on behalf of his late father, Army Pfc. Joseph Mark Hish, who was honored for his valor during World War I.

"I'm so grateful," Hish said. "It's fantastic because it will bring peace and in some cases closure for many, many people."

grisales.claudia@stripes.com
Twitter: @cgrisales

Trump plans New York trip to sign defense bill named for McCain

By SEUNG MIN KIM
The Washington Post

President Donald Trump will travel to Upstate New York on Monday to sign a sweeping, \$716 billion defense bill that sets policy priorities for the Pentagon and is named after one of the president's most pointed Republican critics.

Trump will head to Fort Drum, represented by Rep. Elise Stefanik, R-N.Y., to sign the John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act, named after the Arizona senator and war hero who has been absent from the Senate this year as he undergoes treatment for brain cancer.

I am proud of the partnership with this administration to begin rebuilding our military and the president's visit is an important opportunity to highlight this achievement and to thank our men and women in uniform for their service," Stefanik said in a statement announcing Trump's visit. "I look forward to welcoming President Trump to Fort Drum and continuing to work to ensure our troops have the resources they need to keep us safe."

Though physically absent from the Sen-

ate, McCain has remained one of Trump's sharpest critics from his own party — be it over the president's performance abroad last month alongside Russian President Vladimir Putin or the administration's zero tolerance policy that prompted separations of immigrant families at the border.

In turn, Trump repeatedly references McCain during campaign rallies, although not by name. Trump singles out the Arizona senator for voting against the Senate Republican plan to repeal the Affordable Care Act, often referencing the dramatic moment on the Senate floor in July 2017 when McCain helped kill the GOP bill with a thumbs-down vote.

But the annual defense policy measure is an overwhelmingly bipartisan measure that helps Trump boast of resources for the military, a top priority for the president. This year's version, sent to the White House for Trump's signature last week, also avoided potential political land mines that would have pushed back on some controversial administration policies.

McCain chairs the Senate Armed Services Committee, although Sen. James Inhofe, R-Okla., had handled much of the day-to-day work in McCain's absence.

Sailor killed in Calif. when fuel tank detaches from helo

By COREY DICKSTEIN
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — A Navy helicopter crewmember was killed and another suffered minor injuries last week at a California base when a fuel tank detached from a utility helicopter and landed on them, Navy officials said Tuesday.

Navy Helicopter Aircrewman 1st Class Jonathan Richard Clement died July 30 when an auxiliary fuel tank fell on him from an HH-60H Sea Hawk during "hotseat" operations at Naval Air Station North Island, said Navy Cmdr. Ron Flinders, a spokesman for Naval Air Forces. During hotseat operations, a helicopter typically lands, is refueled or the crew is switched out while it is still running, and quickly takes off again.

The helicopter was on the ground when the fuel tank fell, Flinders said. It contained fuel and potentially weighed some 1,500 pounds.

Clement, 31, was transported to a local hospital where he was pronounced dead, Flinders said. The other sailor, an un-

named petty officer second class, was treated and released.

The incident is under investigation, Flinders said.

The Navy did not announce Clement's death publicly. The incident was made public in a Naval Safety Center report released Monday, which did not identify him by name. Military.com first reported the incident Tuesday.

"A decision was made [not to announce Clement's death] to spare the family added trauma from media contact," Flinders said.

A native of Florida, Clement was an 11-year Navy veteran, according to his service biography. He had been assigned to Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron 85 at North Island, near San Diego, for nearly two years.

Clement was an Enlisted Naval Aircrew Warfare specialist and an Enlisted Aviation Warfare specialist and his awards included four Navy and Marine Corps Achievement medals.

dickstein.corey@stripes.com
Twitter: @CDicksteinDC

EUROPE

US base teens get crash course in living Italian-style

By NANCY MONTGOMERY
Stars and Stripes

VICENZA, Italy — By noon, they had already shopped for trinkets and for gelato.

Now here they were, a platoon of teenagers in a hot, strange land, decamped on the steps of the city's premier building awaiting another talk on their new home's history and culture.

All the lion statues? A symbol of Venetian might, rather like the U.S.' bald eagle.

Riprosa? That's the Italians' long midday break when you can't shop, buy gas or, past 2 p.m., get lunch.

Andreas Palladio? The famous Renaissance architect responsible for the Basilica Palladiana, the city's turquoise-domed showpiece on whose shaded steps they sat.

The middle school and high school students were taking part in U.S. Army Garrison Italy's "Teenvenuti" on a recent August afternoon. It's a welcome program designed to soften what can be an intimidating transition for



military kids who make frequent moves with their parents, including to a country with a different language and culture, where they can't drive and there are no Chick-fil-As.

"When you first get here you're very frustrated and very scared," said Ella Dupree, a Vicenza High School junior who's lived in Vi-

cenza for several years. "But there's nothing to be scared of."

Dupree was one of about 15 seasoned teens who, along with four women employed by the garrison, took 15 new arrivals on a walking tour of the city's old town. She volunteers as a "student leader," giving cultural talks on the walking tour, preparing



PHOTOS BY NANCY MONTGOMERY/Stars and Stripes

Above: A group of American teens gather on the steps of Vicenza's Basilica Palladiana during one of several city tours provided each summer by U.S. Army Garrison Italy for newly arrived middle school and high school students. **Left:** U.S. teens await pizza near the end of a garrison-provided walking tour designed to acquaint them with the local culture.

welcome packets for the newly arrived teens and participating in "after-action reviews."

"I do it because I love introducing new people to the city," Dupree said. "And so people won't be lonely."

The program runs during July and August, when 30 percent of the garrison's students come or go.

Beth Potter, Vicenza's school

liaison and basically the Teenvenuti generalissimo, said that the program reaches about 80 percent of the newly arrived teens.

Quiet at first, the group visibly and audibly relaxed at lunch, where the universal language was spoken: free pizza.

montgomery.nancy@stripes.com
Twitter: @montgomerynancy



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VETERANS

Hotline: Vets assisted across country

FROM FRONT PAGE

Established two years ago, Mission United offers follow-up calls from a fellow veteran and information about organizations that target veterans.

Through Mission United, Davis was able to get assistance with her rent from the Salvation Army while she works with a job placement program to find employment.

"Really, the last two years have been difficult seeing [my mother] deteriorate," she said. "Now, it's all about rebuilding. I'm trying to take it step by step. I'm glad there are organizations like United Way that can help veterans because ... it's very hard to get help for a single person."

Mission United works with veterans not just in San Antonio, but in cities across the country where the United Way has identified a large veteran population, including Miami, Pittsburgh and Norfolk, Va.

Last year, San Antonio's 211 received more than 191,000 calls, mainly from people seeking service referrals, according to the nonprofit's annual report. Of those, about 7,700 came from veterans or active-duty servicemembers. The five most common needs sought by all callers were electric utility assistance, rent assistance, emergency food assistance, public or Section 8 housing, and aging and disability resources.

On most days at the San Antonio call center, there are five call specialists on the phones and two military navigators following up with veterans. The United Way call centers in Texas are a network, so if one goes offline or becomes overwhelmed with callers, another of the state's 24 call centers can help.

From her computer, Maria Gansel, vice president of 211 operations in San Antonio, can see

all call data for Texas, including which city is taking the call and which language they are speaking. Texas offers help in about 150 languages.

Gansel said specialists use a detailed database to find the resource that best fits the needs of the anonymous caller. The only identifying information asked for is a ZIP code.

"We are here 24/7," she said. "We are here to listen. We're here to try to guide people to the appropriate referrals. We are non-judgmental. At the beginning of the call, we don't need to know why exactly you're where you are. We are just ambassadors to help you connect to the right service in the community or to offer you a follow-up."

Juliana Stith, a Navy veteran, is one of two military call specialists in San Antonio. About half of all veterans who call 211 agree to receive a follow-up.

"Typically, when I speak with the veteran, they are just very grateful that there was somebody out there who cared enough to follow up with them," she said. "Even some veterans who don't receive assistance are still grateful for someone who cared enough to reach out."

In-demand services

While the Department of Veterans Affairs runs several hotlines to help veterans use their internal resources and benefits, calling 211 gets veterans in touch with community-based organizations and nonprofits to meet everyday needs and challenges. When it's appropriate, 211 specialists will refer veterans to their VA or to a Vet Center.

Nationally, 211 doesn't consistently track veterans who seek assistance, said Rachel Krausman, senior director of 211 for the

United Way Worldwide. Call specialists ask about it only when it's related to a resource they might be eligible to attain.

Information that is available shows that in 2017, 211 got close to 300,000 calls nationwide from veterans or their family members, she said. Most common requests were for transportation to and from appointments at the VA, housing and food assistance — mirroring what the overall population is also seeking.

"However, there are certainly communities in the U.S. where homelessness among veterans is particularly high, like Broward County (Fla.), and in those cases I would say the veterans' needs outpace civilians," Krausman said.

Meeting the needs

In San Antonio, they look at what is in high demand for veterans and try to work with nonprofits to better meet these needs — such as rent assistance. The Salvation Army San Antonio Area Command recently began to offer veterans rent and utility assistance because of this identified gap.

Hector Garza, lead case manager and specialist for the Salvation Army's social services department, said he receives about 20 voicemails a day from veterans.

Sometimes he can "hit a home run" and help a veteran. For example, a young veteran behind in rent and utilities was depressed because the mother of his children had recently left with them.

"I told him, 'I can't zero both (the rent and utilities) balances, because it's too much,'" recalled Garza, a Marine Corps veteran. "But in both situations, he was able to miss eviction and make arrangements for the difference he still owed."

"On the utility end, we hit a nice



Rose L. Thayer/Stars and Stripes

Jose Cabello, a Marine veteran and call specialist with 211, answers a recent call at the United Way of San Antonio and Bexar County.

home run there and got rid of the disconnection and brought the balance down to less than \$100." The veteran also received face-to-face case management to ensure that he can find his way back to supporting himself again. That call, and most of the ones that Garza receives, came to him as a referral through 211.

Because grant money is often specific about who it can help, programs such as Mission United seek organizations high-quality referrals.

On average, the Salvation Army is able to help about 18 households a month, with \$1,000 as the maximum amount of rent assistance available per household, Garza said. When someone owes more than that, he often calls other nonprofits such as Catholic Charities to see whether they can work together to get balances down.

Joint Base San Antonio is home to the Air Force's Lackland and Randolph Air Force Bases and the Army's Fort San Houston and Brooke Army Medical Center.

Outside the bases, one in eight of San Antonio's nearly 1.5 million residents is a veteran. Juan Ayala, director of San Antonio's

Office of Military and Veterans Affairs and a retired Marine, said the city is proud of its veteran population, as well as the way the local community works so hard to provide resources and help veterans succeed.

"Veterans have some special requirements because of the careers they had, and I think it's outstanding and another great example of the great partnership between the city of San Antonio and the military," Ayala said.

It's about more than solving the one problem that a veteran calls about, said Andrew Sasseville, the United Way San Antonio's senior vice president of accountability and community services. Mission United specialists talk to veterans to identify the root causes of issues to see if they can get the veteran back to being self-sufficient.

"How do you stop that avalanche of needs before it happens?" said Sasseville, who served in the Air Force. "Otherwise, we just keep putting a Band-Aid on it and nothing changes."

thayer.rose@strides.com
Twitter: @Rose_Lori

US: Afghan police killed by Taliban, not by airstrike

By PHILLIP WALTER WELLMAN
Stars and Stripes

KABUL, Afghanistan — A U.S. airstrike in eastern Afghanistan this week did not kill any members of Afghan security forces despite contrary claims by local officials, the U.S. military said in a statement Wednesday.

Officials in Logar province had said a U.S. airstrike early Tuesday morning mistakenly hit a police outpost in Azra district, killing several local Afghan police. However, U.S. Forces-Afghanistan said footage of the incident shows insurgents are to blame for the officers' deaths rather than the airstrike.

"The footage clearly depicts an attack on an Afghan security force observation post by a group of fighting-aged males using multiple heavy weapons and tactics, techniques and procedures employed by the Taliban, from an open position on a ridgeline

above the observation post," Lt. Col. Martin O'Donnell, a USFOR-A spokesman, said.

Both enemy and friendly locations were verified and cleared by Afghan security forces on the ground prior to the U.S. strike, O'Donnell added.

"Our determination is also supported by first-hand accounts from Afghan security force leaders and members present during the incident, who confirmed those firing upon us were Taliban members," he said.

Afghan security forces had been battling the Taliban for 10 days in different parts of Azra — a strategically important district bordering both Pakistan and Kabul province — when American airpower was called in, according to Mohammad Qasem Siddiqi, a provincial council member.

Zubair Babakarkhail contributed to this report.
wellman.phillip@strides.com
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EUROPE

US, allies train in Georgia amid Russian warning

By SLOBODAN LEKIC
Stars and Stripes

KAISERSLAUTERN, Germany — Russia is none too happy about the presence of U.S. troops in Georgia on the 10th anniversary of a brief war between the two former Soviet republics, but U.S. officials say the military exercise there will keep its partners ready for potential aggression.

Noble Partner, an annual two-week exercise, includes 1,170 troops and 140 vehicles deployed by U.S. Army Europe from the 2nd Cavalry Regiment and the 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team.

Contingents from Britain, Germany, Estonia, France, Lithuania, Poland, Norway, Turkey, Ukraine, Azerbaijan and Armenia are also participating in the drills, which began July 30.

On Tuesday, Russia Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev delivered a dramatic warning on state television, saying that any attempt by NATO to incorporate Georgia into the alliance could trigger a new and "horrible" conflict.

Medvedev cited the "unresolved territorial conflict" over two areas that Russia has recognized as independent and Georgia considers breakaway provinces as a potential flashpoint.



R.J. LANNON JR./Courtesy of the U.S. Army National Guard

Pfc. Schuyler T. Lopez, with the Vilseck, Germany-based 2nd Cavalry Regiment, gets familiar with a Georgian PDShP2 anti-materiel rifle at the Vaziani Training Area in Georgia on Aug. 1.

U.S. officials declared their support for Georgia during Noble Partner's opening ceremony without announcing any future plans for NATO admission.

"The United States supports the sovereignty and territorial integrity of its partners," U.S. Ambassador to Georgia Ian Kelly said at the ceremony, according to a Pentagon statement. "Those

gathered here seeking to build readiness and interoperability in the face of aggression are critical to that end."

The U.S. contribution to Noble Partner includes 28 M1126 Strykers, 12 MC2 Bradleys and 5 M1A2 Abrams tanks, as well as nine Apache and Blackhawk helicopters from the Georgia National Guard.

Moscow sees NATO's eastward expansion as an effort to strategically encircle Russia.

Georgia, which gained independence from the Soviet Union in 1991, has long aspired to join the alliance, but its progress toward membership has been blocked by several European governments who say the move would unnecessarily antagonize Russia.

The two countries exchanged blows on Aug. 7, 2008, when Georgian troops launched a surprise attack aimed at regaining control over the Moscow-backed breakaway province of South Ossetia. Russian forces intervened and during a five-day war drove their opponents deep into Georgian territory.

A peace deal ended the war and Russian forces withdrew from Georgia two months later. But Moscow recognized the independence of South Ossetia and Abkhazia, another rebel region, creating a major strain in relations with the United States and the European Union.

"Russia has nothing to fear from the NATO exercises in Georgia, yet it perceives continued Western activity in its near abroad as a security threat," Jacqueline Hazelton, an assistant professor of strategy and policy at

the U.S. Naval War College, said Wednesday.

She pointed out that NATO is a defensive organization and that exercises to improve Georgia's military capabilities are seen by the West as supportive of its rightful ability to defend itself.

"What makes the situation sticky is that Russia considers itself to be acting defensively too, and in its own legitimate sphere of influence," Hazelton said.

This year's drills will center on defensive operations. In one scenario, forces will occupy semi-prepared positions and defend against an attacking force using live ammunition, the U.S. military said.

"It's a demonstration of the United States and ... the alliance's commitment to our partner, Georgia," said Col. Patrick Ellis, commander of the 2nd Cavalry Regiment.

The 2nd Cavalry, based in Vilseck, Germany, has been active in exercises throughout Eastern Europe since relations between NATO and Moscow started deteriorating in the aftermath of the Russian occupation of parts of Ukraine.

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THE NEW SANNO

MILITARY



PHOTOS BY BRIAN FERGUSON/Stars and Stripes

Military members from seven African countries are shown a C-130J during the African Partnership Flight at Ramstein Air Base, Germany, on Tuesday. The weeklong engagement aims to build relationships.

No shortage of camaraderie among US, African air forces

By JENNIFER H. SVAN
Stars and Stripes

RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany — The U.S. and African air forces assembled near the Ramstein flight line have varying capabilities, but they have at least one challenge in common: retaining their best people in the face of commercial competition.

Just as the Air Force faces a pilot shortage, airmen from among seven African nations said during the African Partnership Flight program at Ramstein on Tuesday that they face difficulty keeping personnel.

"Many people find more money, more benefits and less stress in the civilian airlines," Senegal air force Maj. Mamadou Watthie said. "We need to recruit and train young Senegalese, but we also need to make the airman's job attractive."

Retention — as part of overall force development — along with the fight against Islamic extremism and general aviation, are issues of common ground being covered between the U.S. airmen and 34 African representatives during the program, which began Monday and ends Friday.

The African Partnership Flight began in Ghana in 2012. Most of the meetings typically about two are held annually — take place in Africa, hosted by USAFE-AFAFRICA and at least one African nation. This time, airmen from Mali, Chad, Gabon, Malawi, Uganda, Mauritania and Senegal came to Ramstein.

On a day when the temperature felt Sahara-like, airmen sweated their way through a tour of U.S. aircraft maintenance facilities.

They glimpsed into the cockpit of an idle C-130J and stood inside a warehouse packed with tens of thousands of spare aircraft parts, from propellers to giant tires. They also asked questions,



Senegal air force Senior Master Sgt. Dethie Diouf walks off the Ramstein Air Base sightline.

all with the goal of bringing back useful information to their developing air forces at home.

Regarding retention, one airman asked Lt. Col. Douglas Warren, 86th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron commander, how he kept his maintainers from "running to American Airlines or Delta."

Warren pointed to a formidable-looking blue knight painted on the wall, representing the squadron's "Blue Knights" nickname.

"If I can get them to think like this and they know I care about them, because now they have pride and now they know that their leaders care," Warren said.

"I still lose people to American Airlines and Delta," he added, "but those airlines are better for it because I provided them with some very skilled labor."

At higher levels, the Air Force is also examining several incentives to retain airmen and especially pilots. The Air Force said earlier this year that it's about 2,000 pilots short of full strength.

Other suggestions include giving enlisted servicemembers more authority which is a common issue among services in de-

veloping nations.

Senior Master Sgt. Dethie Diouf, 48, an avionics equipment technician and instructor in the Senegal air force, said he was surprised to hear of a squadron at Ramstein that had hundreds of enlisted airmen and fewer than a dozen officers.

"In Africa, officers have all the responsibility," which sometimes can be a problem, because unlike senior enlisted leaders in the U.S. Air Force, they often "stay in their offices" and don't have a lot of on-the-job experience, he said.

"Here in America ... they respect enlisted people and give them a lot of responsibility," he said.

Improvements in force structure tie in to the foremost goal of the program — increasing overall aviation capability. The effort has a hoped-for secondary effect of improving security in Africa.

"Many of these countries are fighting violent extremists in their own countries right now," said Brig. Gen. Dieter Baeleis, director of plans and programs for U.S. Air Forces in Europe and Air Forces Africa. "If we can increase their capability and capacity, that will help improve security overall on the continent. We have common security goals and so we need to work together to achieve these goals."

Co-hosting the training with USAFE-AFAFRICA was Senegal and Mauritania, two countries that already had the training being given at Ramstein.

Security challenges in the Sahel-Saharan region make working together critical, Watthie said.

"To know if you have a problem, you can call (a neighboring country's air force) and they will assist you, that has no price," he said.

svan.jennifer@stripes.com
Twitter: @stripesktown

Lewis-McChord will be first base to get Wahlburgers

By CHAD GARLAND
Stars and Stripes

Troops tired of Anthony's pizza, Charley's subs and Auntie Anne's pretzels will have a new food option named after someone they may actually recognize when Wahlburgers opens on Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Wash.

It will be the first military installation to host the fast-casual burger joint founded by chef Paul Wahlberg and his actor brothers Mark and Donnie Wahlberg, the Army and Air Force Exchange Service said Tuesday, announcing an agreement with the restaurant chain. The location at the JBLM Lewis Exchange food code is slated to open in spring 2020, following renovations slated to begin this fall.

A partnership between AAFES and Wahlburgers is expected to be announced during the season finale of the A&E reality show about the celebrity brothers' burger chain on Wednesday. The show "Wahlburgers" will air back-to-back episodes beginning at 9 p.m. Central time.

"The Wahlberg family is incredibly proud of this partnership," Mark Wahlberg said. "We look forward to seeing the Wahlburgers experience to military families at Joint Base Lewis-McChord."

The Massachusetts natives, from a family of nine kids, opened their first Wahlburgers in 2011 in Hingham, Mass., south of Boston. They've expanded to more than two dozen locations across North America since, including a Boston-based food truck. The A&E series this season followed the brothers' plans to double the company's size in a year.

The new partnership is part of AAFES' commitment to serving "the best customers in the world — soldiers, airmen and their families," said Air Force Chief Master Sgt. Luis Reyes, the Exchange's senior enlisted leader.

Donnie and Mark Wahlberg

rose to stardom in the 1990s as pop music stars — Donnie Wahlberg was a member of New Kids on the Block and his brother, known by the moniker Marky Mark, headed up the hip-hop group the Funky Bunch. Both are perhaps better known for their film roles now, which include a number of military and police roles.

Donnie Wahlberg played 2nd Lt. C. Carwood Lipton in the HBO miniseries "Band of Brothers," which traced the exploits of the 101st Airborne Division's "Easy" Company, 2nd Battalion, 506th Parachute Infantry Regiment during World War II. He plays New York cop Danny Reagan in the CBS series "Blue Bloods."

His younger brother Mark portrayed Navy SEAL Marcus Luttrell in 2013's "Lone Survivor," based on Luttrell's book about the deadly Operation Red Wings in Pech district of Afghanistan's Kurnur province in 2005. He's racked up several other military and police roles, including the fictional retired Marine scout sniper Bob Lee Swagger in "Shooter" (2007), Sgt. 1st Class Troy Barlow in "Three Kings" (1999) and Pvt. Tommy Lee Haywood, his first big screen role, in "Renaissance Man" (1993).

His latest thriller, "Mile 22," in which he plays a CIA operative, is slated to be screened for troops in Afghanistan Aug. 11-15, ahead of its release in U.S. theaters Aug. 17. It screened for free at 12 AAFES Reel Time theaters in the U.S. last week as part of a partnership with the film studio.

The Wahlburgers menu includes fresh ground beef burgers, beef hot dogs, crispy fries, onion rings, tater tots, salads, frappes, beers and cocktails. Options also include fish and a plant-based sandwich known as "The Impossible Burger," according to the company website.

garland.chad@stripes.com
Twitter: @chadgarland



Courtesy of Army and Air Force Exchange Service

Actor Mark Wahlberg, center in hat, meets with troops at the Fort Belvoir in Georgia in May. Wahlburgers, the restaurant founded by Wahlberg and two of his brothers, will open in 2020 at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Wash.

NATION

Votes cast but Ohio, Kan. await results

Associated Press

WESTERVILLE, Ohio — Two high-stakes elections that tested President Donald Trump's clout and cost both parties millions of dollars were too close to call early Wednesday. Trump claimed victory in one nevertheless.

In battleground Ohio, the president took credit for Republican Troy Balderson's performance, calling it "a great victory," even though the contest could be headed to a recount. Democrats could also celebrate their showing in a district that has gone Republican for decades.

"We're not stopping now," Democrat Danny O'Connor told cheering supporters. He'll reprise his campaign against Balderson from now through November's general election.

In Kansas, the Republican primary for governor was too close to call.

With election officials in Kansas halting the vote count Wednesday morning, Secretary of State Kris Kobach led incumbent Gov. Jeff Colyer by fewer than 200 votes. It could be a few days before all absentee votes are counted.

The day's races in five states, like many before them, tested the support of Trump's key supporters and the momentum of the Democratic Party's anti-Trump resistance.

The results were helping determine the political landscape — and Trump's standing within his own party — as the GOP defends its House and Senate majorities this fall.

In Kansas, Republicans were fighting among themselves in an unusual battle for governor in which the president sided with the incumbent's challenger.

A new state law allows ballots postmarked as of Tuesday to be counted, so long as they arrive three days after Election Day.

Kobach received a late endorsement from Trump. Colyer received the endorsement of the National Rifle Association and had the backing of Kansas political legend Bob Dole.

Should the polarizing Kobach win the primary, some Republican operatives fear he could lose the governorship to Democrats this fall. The race could become further disrupted if Kansas City-area businessman Greg Orman makes it onto the November ballot. He submitted petitions Monday with more than 10,000 signatures for what could become the most serious independent run for Kansas governor in decades.

Trump made his preference clear for Kobach.

"He is a fantastic guy who loves his State and our Country - he will be a GREAT Governor and has my full & total Endorsement!"



CHRIS NEAL, THE TOPEKA (KAN.) CAPITAL JOURNAL/AP

Kansas Republican gubernatorial candidate and Secretary of State Kris Kobach and his wife, Heather, thank supporters Tuesday night. His primary against Gov. Jeff Colyer is still too close to call.

Strong on Crime, Border & Military," the president tweeted on the eve of the election.

In Ohio, the script for the special election was somewhat familiar. An experienced Trump loyalist, Balderson was fighting a strong challenge from O'Connor, a fresh-faced Democrat in the state's 12th congressional District, a Columbus-area suburban area held by the Republican Party for more than three decades. As

voters were going to the polls, Trump said Balderson would make a "great congressman."

The winner takes the seat previously held by Pat Tiberi, a nine-term incumbent who resigned to take a job with an Ohio business group.

Balderson and O'Connor will reprise their race in the general election in just three months. There were at least 3,367 provisional ballots left to be reviewed.

That's enough for O'Connor to potentially pick up enough to force a recount.

The Associated Press does not declare winners in races subject to an automatic recount.

In a special election season that featured nearly a dozen congressional contests, Democrats claimed just a handful of wins, but they may have cause for optimism this fall. In virtually every special election test dating back to the spring of 2017, Democratic candidates performed significantly better than their party in those same places two years earlier. There are 79 House races this fall considered more competitive than the Ohio district — at least looking at Trump's 2016 performance — according to data compiled by the Democrats' national campaign committee.

O'Connor's total of nearly 100,000 votes far exceeded what Tiberi's Democratic opponent got in 2014. Balderson's total — just more than 101,500 votes — is barely two-thirds of Tiberi's 2014 mark of about 150,000.

"Over the next three months, I'm going to do everything I can to keep America great again, so that when we come back here in November — get ready, we gotta come back here in November."

I have earned your vote for a second time," Balderson told supporters.

Tlaib wins Conyers' seat; Congress to get 1st Muslim woman

Associated Press

DETROIT — Former Michigan state Rep. Rashida Tlaib has won the Democratic nomination to run unopposed for the House seat long held by former Rep. John Conyers, setting her up to become the first Muslim woman elected to Congress.

No Republicans or third-party candidates ran in Tuesday's District 13 primary race, meaning Tlaib is set to win the seat in November's election and begin serving a full two-year term in January. The special primary race to serve the last two months of Conyers' term was still too close to call as of early Wednesday morning, with Tlaib and Detroit City Council President Brenda Jones neck and neck. The winner of that race will also run unopposed in November's election.

Tlaib, 42, served in the Michigan House from 2009 until 2014. She defeated five other candidates to win the nomination to represent the heavily Democratic district, which covers much of Detroit and some of its suburbs.

Conyers, 89, was first elected to the House in 1964. He stepped down in December citing health reasons after several former female staffers had accused him of sexual harassment.

"This is a huge victory for the Arab and Muslim American communities — it's also a huge victory for the city of Detroit," said Sally Howell, director of the Center for Arab American Studies at the University of Michigan-Dearborn. "Rashida Tlaib brings forward the legacy of John Conyers in terms of the groundbreaking role he played in Congress and his commitment to civil rights."

Conyers' seat was among three open House seats in Michigan heading into the primary, including another that the Democrats expected to keep and a Republican-held seat they hope to flip in their push to take control of the chamber.

In addition to Tlaib and Jones, Westland Mayor Bill Wild and Conyers' great-nephew, state Sen. Ian Carver, are in the Republican election. Joining them in the race for the full two-year term were former state Rep. Shanelle Jackson and current state Sen. Coleman Young, the son of the late Coleman A. Young, who was elected mayor in 1968 and held the position for 20 years.

Three Democrats were seeking the 9th District seat following the retirement of longtime Rep. Sander Levin, a Democrat who served 18 House terms and is the brother of retired Sen. Carl Levin. Among them



Michigan Democrat Rashida Tlaib's primary election victory Tuesday makes it likely she will be the first Muslim woman elected to Congress.

was Sander Levin's 58-year-old son, Andy Levin, who has never held elected office but who served as director of the state's Energy, Labor and Economic Growth department from 2010 to 2011.

The winner will face Republican Candius Stearns and the Green Party's John McDermott in November.

Democrats are hoping to flip the traditionally GOP-leaning 11th House District with the retirement of Republican Rep. David Trott. Five Democrats and five Republicans were vying for the seat, which represents Detroit's affluent northwest suburbs. In 2016, Donald Trump barely won the district, which has been getting more racially and ethnically diverse.

Democrats pick gay Native American nominee in Kan.

Associated Press

TOPEKA, Kan. — Sharice Davids shattered the mold for a congressional primary winner from ruby red Kansas on Wednesday, becoming the state's first Native American and gay nominee for Congress.

The 38-year-old attorney and activist prevailed in a close six-candidate Democratic primary Tuesday and will face four-term Republican Rep. Kevin Yoder. Democrats are targeting Yoder this fall because Democrat Hillary Clinton narrowly won the district in the 2016 presidential race.

Republicans hold all four Kansas seats in the U.S. House but Democrats hope to flip two of them in November.

Davids was raised by a single mother and earned a law degree from Cornell University. She was a White House fellow during Barack Obama's presidency. As she's a former mixed martial arts fighter who introduced herself to fellow Democrats with a video showing her in the ring and landing kicks to a punching bag. That proved a compelling story for many voters. She's competitive Kansas congressional race.

"In a lot of ways, my candidacy and my campaign is just another extension of the nontraditional path that I have in my life," she said in an interview before the primary. "What people are seeing is that the traditional way that politics has been done is just not



LUKE HARBURG, THE KANSAS CITY (MO.) STAR/CP

Sharice Davids addresses her supporters in Kansas City, Kan., on Tuesday. Davids is not the Democratic nominee for Kansas' 3rd Congressional District seat.

working for so many people."

Davids, from Kansas City, Kan., is a member of the Ho-Chunk Nation, of Wisconsin. She has called for treating gun violence as a public health crisis and supports expanding Medicaid's health coverage for more Americans. She's critical of tax cuts championed by President Donald Trump.

But her closest primary opponent, Kansas City, Kan., labor attorney Brent Welder, picked up the endorsement of Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders, the patriarch of the democratic socialist movement.

NATION

Lawmaker's campaign material runs afoul of DOD ethics rules

Honolulu Star-Advertiser

The Hawaii Army National Guard has instructed Democratic Rep. Tulsi Gabbard to take down or amend certain campaign material from her VoteTulsi Facebook page because it violates military ethics rules.

Gabbard, like other politicians with military experience, often uses images and video of herself in uniform in campaign ads. But the Department of Defense has policies in place aimed at making sure those ads are not seen as an endorsement from any branch of the military. Campaign material must include a "prominent and clearly displayed disclaimer" that the ad or image is not a military endorsement.

Candidates are also forbidden from using images of themselves in uniform as the primary graphic in campaign material.

Gabbard is a major in Hawaii's Army National Guard and member of the Reserve forces. She served two tours of duty in the Middle East before being elected to Congress in 2012.

Gabbard's campaign, as of Monday afternoon, appeared to have already removed a video from the site. On the VoteTulsi Facebook page that the National Guard had flagged, her campaign also added a disclaimer to the website's banner image



CAROLINE HURLEY/Stars and Stripes

Rep. Tulsi Gabbard, D-Hawaii, has been told by the state's Army National Guard that some campaign material on her Facebook page violates military ethics rules.

— a photograph of Gabbard in uniform in a veterans cemetery — that notes the image does not imply an endorsement by the military. However, the disclaimer is visible only if one clicks on the photograph.

Jeff Hickman, a spokesman for the Hawaii Army National Guard, said Gabbard also ran afoul of the military ethics rules during one of her prior congressional campaigns.

Gabbard's campaign released a

statement Monday saying that the congresswoman was compliant with DOD regulations relating to sharing photos of her service in military uniform.

"The required DOD disclaimer is posted across all of her social media platforms, website, and on her television ads, and photos of her in uniform make up a very small percentage of all pictures posted," Erika Tsuji, a spokeswoman for Gabbard, said in a statement.

Probe opened into former SEAL lawmaker's ballot petition effort

Associated Press

NORFOLK, Va. — A special prosecutor in Virginia was appointed Tuesday to investigate potential election law violations in a tight congressional race that could help Democrats reclaim the U.S. House.

Political observers said the probe could hurt Republican Rep. Scott Taylor, a former Navy SEAL, in what's become an increasingly competitive district along Virginia's coast. But it will likely depend on the investigation's outcome.

The special prosecutor will focus on possible discrepancies among signatures that were gathered by Taylor's campaign staff to help an independent congressional candidate get on November's ballot. The move was widely seen as an effort by Taylor's campaign to help the Democratic candidate in Virginia's 2nd District. Taylor is running against Elaine Luria, a former Navy commander who is backed by national Democrats. The independent candidate is Shaun Brown, a former Democrat who helped Taylor in 2016.

This week, four people told local public radio station WHRO-FM that they never signed a petition to get Brown on the ballot, even though their names appear among the signatures collected by Taylor's staff.

Another woman told the station



AP

A special prosecutor will look into possible discrepancies among signatures gathered by campaign staff for Rep. Scott Taylor, R-Va., to help an independent candidate get on November's ballot.

that her dead husband's name is on the petition. And Virginia Del. Glenn Davis, a Republican, has told media outlets that his name appeared on two petitions. He said he signed one. His first name was misspelled and his address was incorrect on another.

The revelations prompted the commonwealth's attorney for Virginia Beach to request a special prosecutor. A judge appointed Donald R. Caldwell, the commonwealth's attorney for Roanoke.

Taylor's office said he was

aware that his staff had volunteered to collect signatures for Brown. But he said he was not at all involved. Taylor said he previously fired his campaign manager over separate issues, but "current knowledge underscores that decision." It also prompted him to fire a campaign consultant.

Taylor won his first term in 2016 by nearly 23 percentage points. The district is home to the world's largest Navy base, in Norfolk, and one of the nation's largest veteran populations.

Hackers' attacks on candidates are raising US alarms

By ALYSA SEBENIUS

Bloomberg

The U.S. midterm elections are at increasing risk of interference by foreign adversaries led by Russia, and cybersecurity experts warn the Trump administration isn't adequately defending against the meddling.

At stake is control of Congress. The risks range from social media campaigns intended to fool American voters to sophisticated computer hacking that could change the tabulation of votes.

At least three congressional candidates have already been hit with phishing attacks that strongly resemble Russian sabotage in the 2016 campaign. Among them was Sen. Claire McCaskill, a Missouri Democrat in one of the year's most hotly contested races.

Facebook has shut down dozens of accounts and pages to stop what appeared to be a coordinated disinformation campaign.

Three months ahead of the election, President Donald Trump's top national security officials are sounding the alarm. Five of them went to the White House podium last week to warn of interference and outline the government's preparations, even as Trump himself continues to publicly raise doubts about Russia's involvement in the 2016 election that he won.

Dan Coats, the director of national intelligence, warned that a major Russian effort to undermine the November election is "only one keyboard click away."

What would such an attack look like? Here are some of the major risks and an analysis of the damage they could do, according to experts in the field.

■ Fooling voters. Russia sought to sway the vote in 2016 through disinformation campaigns and targeted hacking and leaking of information. Hackers are at it again, as shown in the phishing attacks on congressional candidates and suspect Facebook pages.

Even as Twitter and Facebook launch new initiatives to stop such meddling, hackers are adjusting to avoid, or at least delay, detection. Some of the top suspect pages Facebook shut down in July had been operating for more than a year. One simple tweak their sponsors made: paying for ads in U.S. and Canadian dollars instead of Russian rubles.

Meddling through social media remains a cheap and effective means to "throw fuel on already divisive fires that are burning," said Michael Sulmeyer, the director of the Cyber Security Project at Harvard's Belfer Center.

Undermining trust. Elections only work in democracies if

the public believes in the outcome. Russian hackers have already identified that trust as a point of attack elsewhere. In 2014, they attempted to fool television stations in Ukraine into broadcasting the wrong results to sow confusion.

Hackers need only introduce uncertainty about whether voters will be counted accurately to weaken the legitimacy of elected leaders. Even an unsuccessful cyberattack could shake faith in the results.

■ Suppressing the vote. It's a truism of politics that voter turnout decides elections. Malicious hackers have plenty of ways to interfere, said Steve Grobman, chief technology officer of the security software company McAfee. Russian hackers successfully penetrated voter rolls in 2016 in a few states. Security experts fear they may be countering the election in 2018 by strategically deleting voter information.

Plenty of more subtle avenues are also available, Grobman said. Well-timed denial-of-service attacks could prevent voters in specific districts from getting information about their polling places. Fake reminders could deter voters to show up at the wrong voting locations. Malware that targets operations at specific polling places, such as systems used to check in voters, would only need to slow the process a few seconds per voter to create cascading delays.

■ Altering the tally. The nuclear option is to attempt to change the outcome of an American election by tampering with election machines or the tabulation of votes.

A close election with a "smoking gun" showing interference in even a small number of key races "would undermine confidence in electoral tallies across the board and cause a political crisis," said James Miller, who served as an undersecretary of defense in the Obama administration.

U.S. authorities are most focused on preventing just this scenario. It would be the most provocative attack and would invite retaliation.

■ Buried in the noise. Foreign hackers could stay in the background during the less prominent congressional elections, instead making inroads into election systems and, according to Miller, even recruiting insiders to aid a campaign that significantly undermines the next presidential election.

U.S. adversaries face a key strategic question, according to James Lewis, a cybersecurity expert at the Center for Strategic and International Studies: "Would you save your best tricks for 2020 or will you maybe experiment with a couple in 2018?"

NATION

With 18 blazes, Calif. may face worst fire season

Associated Press

LAKEPORT, Calif. — The largest wildfire ever recorded in California needed just 11 days to blacken an area nearly the size of Los Angeles — and it's only one of many enormous blazes that could make this the worst fire season in state history.

Some 14,000 firefighters from as far away as Florida and even New Zealand are struggling to curb 18 fires in the midst of a sweltering summer that has seen wind-whipped flames carve their way through national forest land and rural areas, threaten urban areas and incinerate neighborhoods.

"For whatever reason, fires are burning much more intensely, much more quickly than they were before," said Mark A. Hartwig, president of the California Fire Chiefs Association.

California is seeing earlier, longer and more destructive wildfire seasons because of drought, warmer weather attributed to climate change and home construction deeper into the forests.

Some of the largest fires have erupted just within the past few weeks as the state has seen record-setting temperatures — and the historically worst months of wildfire season are still to come.

In Northern California, the record-setting Mendocino Complex — twin fires being fought as a single conflagration — gained ground Wednesday but more slowly because its own smoke covered the area and lowered the temperature, according to the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection.

The flames, which had burned 470 square miles, were raging in mostly remote areas but 116 homes were destroyed. Two firefighters have been injured.

Fire crews expect to gain control of the massive blaze in September, the state forestry and fire protection agency said.

The blaze that broke out July 27 initially spread quickly because of what officials said was a perfect combination of weather, rugged topography and abundant brush and timber turned to tinder by years of drought.

Resources also were thin at first because thousands of firefighters already were battling a fire hundreds of miles north. That fire, which spread into the city of Redding, killed six people and destroyed more than 1,000 homes. The so-called Carr Fire was less than half-contained.

In becoming the biggest fire in California history, the Mendocino Complex Fire broke a record set just eight months ago. A blaze in Southern California in December killed two people, burned 440 square miles and destroyed more than 1,900 buildings.

California's firefighting costs have more than tripled from \$242 million in the 2013 fiscal year to \$773 million in the 2018 fiscal year that ended June 30, according to Cal Fire.

"We're in uncharted territory," Gov. Jerry Brown warned last week. "Since civilization emerged 10,000 years ago, we haven't had this kind of heat condition, and it's going to continue getting worse. That's the way it is."



MINDY SCHAUER, THE ORANGE COUNTY (CALIF.) REGISTER/AP

Holy Jim volunteer firefighter Luke Senger stands next to a home destroyed by the Holy Fire in Trabuco Canyon, Calif., on Monday.



MICHELLE J. ULBER/Courtesy of the U.S. Air National Guard

Members of the 163rd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, 163rd Attack Wing, California Air National Guard, check a MQ-9 Reaper remotely piloted aircraft before a fire support mission Aug. 1 at March Air Reserve Base, Calif. The wing is supporting the fight against numerous wildfires in Northern California.

Above: National Guard drones' real-time data help firefighters battle Calif. blazes

FROM FRONT PAGE

"For firefighting, it's a game changer, no doubt. And it's only going to get better," said Damian Guilliani, situation unit leader on California Interagency Incident Management Team 4, which helped battle the Ferguson Fire.

Firefighting technology in California took a big leap five years ago when the Guard first used a large drone to fly over the Rim fire in San Diego County. It sent video footage back to an operations facility.

Since then, the Guard's 163rd Attack Wing has helped fight more than 20 wildland fires.

The California Air National Guard arrived at the Ferguson Fire on July 18, initially employing drones as well as a manned aircraft. (The drones soon were diverted to the Carr and Mendocino Complex fires.)

Command leaders fighting the blaze that has closed Yosemite Valley indefinitely have taken the Guard intel and gotten it to their troops on the ground — hotshot crews, incident mappers and air assault teams — within 15 minutes.

In coming fire seasons, leaders anticipate that process will only become more efficient.

The Guard's aircraft can fly at night and at high altitudes, above the smoke, recording video via infrared technology. It also can fly around the fire's perimeter faster than a helicopter.

"The technology is absolutely amazing," Guilliani said. "Not only can they see live video, but you can actually see at 25,000 feet when they shoot down on the fire line, you can actually see people walking around and see fire trucks through infrared."

Since it began July 13 in the Sierra National Forest, the Ferguson Fire has burned more than

94,000 acres. On Tuesday, it was at 43 percent containment, with almost 2,400 firefighters and support personnel working to stop it.

The region's unforgiving landscape — steep, rocky hillsides and deep canyons and cliffs — has made portions of the wildfire too perilous to reach. Nearly 50 percent of the Sierra National Forest is wilderness, making it one of the largest contiguous blocks of such land in the continental United States, according to the U.S. Forest Service.

Instead of focusing on fighting the fire with a perilous frontal assault, crews have worked for several days to burn a boundary around the fire to keep it from reaching farther into Yosemite National Park and toward the small communities along Highway 41.

Along with 33 bulldozers, dozens of hotshot crewmembers have journeyed miles through the forest to carve out a fire line against the spread of flames. Usually a crew — often dropped off by helicopter into the forest — can construct a mile of line in a setting like the Sierra National Forest in one day. Because of the number of trees killed by drought and a bark beetle infestation that have fallen throughout the region, they've been lucky to construct one-third a mile of fire line, officials said.

Between 2010 and 2017, an estimated 129 million trees have succumbed in California. That includes two areas where the Ferguson Fire has burned: 31.8 million dead trees in the Sierra National Forest, and another 9 million in the Stanislaus National Forest.

Hand crews have spent days working 16-hour shifts using chain saws, Pulaskis — part ax, part grub hoe — and other tools to clear miles of manzanita and other brush along roads and highways in preparation for back

burning. The technique, which involves firefighters burning a line around a wildfire, is designed to slow or stop the blaze by depriving it of fuel.

Robby Peterson, a Corona battalion chief, said his team was hearing and seeing dead trees, dubbed by firefighters as "snags," fall every few minutes.

To avoid the danger, he said, firefighters do their best to avoid them, trying to make sure they are uphill from the dead trees and being mindful to identify which ones they think might fall.

"Imagine a sparkler that's 150-foot tall that's throwing sparks across our line," Peterson said. "That's the problem. That's what makes it a challenge. It doesn't take much wind to carry those (embers) because the trees are so high."

That's part of the reason the California Air National Guard's presence has been so crucial.

By knowing a wildfire's exact behavior in real time, fire chiefs can place firefighters more strategically — and hopefully keep them safer.

Since the Ferguson Fire began, two firefighters have been killed.

Cal Fire's heavy equipment operator Braden Varney died on July 14 when his bulldozer fell down a steep canyon while he was working. Two weeks later, Capt. Brian Hughes, of the Arrowhead Interagency Hotshots, was killed by a falling tree.

The information from Guard aircraft will help ensure crews have a more precise idea of what they're up against, officials said.

"In 45 years of fighting fires, it's never easy being on an incident where you have fatalities," said Deputy Incident Commander Rocky Opliger. "This will help us reduce exposure, flat bottom line."

NATION

GOP congressman from NY charged with insider trading

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Republican U.S. Rep. Christopher Collins, of New York, was arrested Wednesday on charges he fed inside information that he gleaned from sitting on the board of a biotechnology company to his son, helping others dodge hundreds of thousands of dollars in losses when bad news came out.

The charges were announced against Collins, a staunch supporter of President Donald Trump who is up for re-election in November.

An indictment unsealed in federal court in Manhattan charges Collins, the congressman's son and the father of the son's fiancée with conspiracy, wire fraud and other counts.

Prosecutors say the charges

relate to a scheme to gain insider information about Innate Immunotherapeutics Limited, a biotechnology company headquartered in Sydney, Australia.

According to the indictment, the defendants tried to get early word on the results of trials of a drug the company developed to treat multiple sclerosis.

Collins, 68, a conservative who was first elected in 2014 to represent parts of western New York between Buffalo and Rochester, has denied any wrongdoing. When the House Ethics Committee began investigating the stock trades a year ago, his spokeswoman called it a "partisan witch hunt."

"We will answer the charges filed against Congressman Collins in court and will mount a

vigorous defense to clear his good name," his attorneys, Jonathan Barr and Jonathan New, said in a statement Wednesday. "It is notable that even the government does not allege that Congressman Collins traded a single share of Innate Therapeutics stock. We are confident he will be completely vindicated and exonerated."

All three defendants were in federal custody Wednesday.

Collins has a track record of publicly backing Trump, including being one of the first sitting members of Congress to endorse his candidacy. Most recently, Collins called for an end to Special Counsel Robert Mueller's probe into campaign collusion and blamed the Obama Administration for failing to push back on Russia.



JACQUELYN MARTIN/AP

The defense team for Paul Manafort, including Kevin Downing, front left, and Thomas Zejnil, right, arrive at federal court in Alexandria, Va., on Wednesday.

Manafort lawyer attacks star witness' 'many lies'

Associated Press

ALEXANDRIA, Va. — The questioning of Paul Manafort's protegee was confrontational and personal. Manafort's lawyer hammered Rick Gates about his own crimes, an extramarital affair and a guilty plea with prosecutors that may spare him severe punishment.

Gates, who faced a bruising cross-examination, returned to the witness stand Wednesday for additional questioning from a Manafort lawyer who accused the government's star witness of being immersed in "so many lies" that he can't even remember them all and who demanded to know how a jury could possibly trust him.

Lawyers for Manafort, the former Trump campaign chairman, are determined to impugn the credibility of Gates. Defense attorney Kevin Downing began his cross-examination of Gates by confronting him on his own lies to special counsel Robert Mueller's investigators, getting him to admit to an affair and pressing him about hundreds of thousands of dollars he admitted to embezzling from his former boss.

The aggressive questioning was aimed at shifting blame from Manafort onto Gates, who pleaded guilty in Mueller's investigation and agreed to cooperate with

investigators by testifying in the financial fraud trial.

Prosecutors had braced for the tough questioning by getting Gates to come clean about his own crimes. He recounted how he and Manafort used more than a dozen offshore shell companies and bank accounts in Cyprus to funnel the money, all while concealing the accounts and the income from the IRS.

But the grilling got more intense, and personal, Tuesday afternoon when Downing pressed Gates about a "secret life" he said was funded by embezzlement, including an extramarital affair that Gates acknowledged.

After Gates struggled to recall precisely what he had told Mueller's team, Downing asked if he had been confronted with "so many lies" that he can't keep his story straight.



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Partner of DER PART

US bracing for cyberattacks after renewal of sanctions against Iran

By DEB RIECHMANN

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The U.S. is bracing for cyberattacks Iran could launch in retaliation for the reimposition of sanctions this week by President Donald Trump, cybersecurity and intelligence experts say.

Concern over that cyber threat has been rising since May, when Trump pulled out of the 2015 nuclear deal, under which the U.S. and other world powers eased economic sanctions in exchange for curbs on Iran's nuclear program. The experts say the threat would intensify following Washington's move Tuesday to reimpose economic restrictions on Tehran.

"While we have no specific threats, we have seen an increase in chatter related to Iranian threat activity over the past several weeks," said Priscilla Moriuchi, director of strategic threat development at Recorded Future, a global real-time cyberthreat intelligence company. The Massachusetts-based company predicted in May that the U.S. withdrawal from the nuclear agreement would provoke a cyber response from the Iranian government within two to four months.

U.S. intelligence agencies have singled out Iran as one of the main foreign cyberthreats facing America, along with Russia, China and North Korea. A wave of attacks that U.S. authorities blamed on Iran between 2012 and 2014 targeted banks and caused tens of millions of dollars in damage. They also targeted but failed to penetrate critical infrastructure.

Iran denies using its cyber capabilities for offensive purposes, and accuses the U.S. of targeting

Iran. Several years ago, the top-secret Stuxnet computer virus destroyed centrifuges involved in Iran's contested nuclear program. Stuxnet, which is widely believed to be an American and Israeli creation, caused thousands of centrifuges at Iran's Natanz nuclear facility to spin themselves to destruction at the height of the West's fears over Iran's program.

"The United States has been the most aggressive country in the world in offensive cyber activity and publicly boasted about attacking targets across the world," said Alireza Miryousefi, spokesman for Iran's diplomatic mission at the United Nations, contending that Iran's cyber capabilities are "exclusively for defensive purposes."

Gen. Qassem Soleimani, who heads the elite Quds Force of Iran's hard-line paramilitary Revolutionary Guard, has sounded more ominous, warning late last month about Iran's capabilities in "asymmetric war," a veiled reference to nontraditional warfare that could include cyberattacks.

The Trump administration says it reimposed sanctions on Iran to prevent its aggression — denying it the funds it needs to finance terrorism, its missile program and forces in conflicts in Yemen and Syria.

Norm Roule, former Iran manager for the office of the Director of National Intelligence, said he thinks Tehran will muster its cyber forces in response.

"I think there is a good chance Iran will use cyber, probably not an attack that is so destructive that it would fragment its remaining relationship with Europe, but I just don't think the Iranians will think there is much cost to doing this," Roule said. "And it's a good

way to show their capacity to inflict economic cost against the United States."

The office of Director of National Intelligence Dan Coats declined to comment Tuesday on the likelihood that Iran will answer the sanctions with cyber operations against the U.S. When the U.S. pulled out of the nuclear deal, the FBI issued a warning saying that hackers in Iran "could potentially use a range of computer network operations — from scanning networks for potential vulnerabilities to data-deletion attacks — against U.S.-based networks in response to the U.S. government's withdrawal" from the nuclear pact.



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BUSINESS/WEATHER

Papa John's sales drop amid controversy

By Candice Choi
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Papa John's wants to move on from its famous founder, but John Schnatter says he isn't going away.

The fight underscores the challenges facing the pizza chain, which has slashed its sales outlook for the year after reporting a third straight quarter of sales declines in North America. Rival Domino's continues to post gains. Even before Forbes reported on

July 11 that founder John Schnatter used a racial slur, a key sales figure had been down around 6 percent. Then for July, the drop steepened to 10.5 percent at established North American locations, the company said Tuesday.

Now, Papa John's and the man who founded it are fighting over where to lay blame for the troubles and what's needed to win back customers.

Papa John's says it can't predict for how long or how much its sales will be hurt by bad publicity.

But the company is envisioning a future and new marketing campaign later this year without Schnatter, whose image until just a few weeks ago was on a logo all over its website.

During a call with analysts, CEO Steve Ritchie said the company needed to "move on" and that the chain shouldn't be dependent on a single person.

"Sometimes the greatest opportunities happen in the most inopportune times," Ritchie said.

Schnatter, who remains Papa

John's biggest shareholder and a board member, has a different take. He said in a statement that he is "not going away."

"The company is trying to deflect attention from the source of the problem — management's ongoing failures with regard to financial performance — and blame me for its problems," he said.

In an interview with The Associated Press last week, Schnatter said the chain's troubles reflect its move away from marketing its "roots," including his disappear-

ance from TV and radio ads starting late last year.

The competing arguments come after Schnatter apologized and stepped down as chairman for using the N-word during a meal training call last month. Schnatter said the comment was taken out of context, and he has since criticized Papa John's for its handling of the matter.

For the year, Papa John's now expects sales to fall 7 to 10 percent at established North American locations.

Tesla CEO drops bombshell \$72B buyout proposal

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Tesla CEO Elon Musk is gearing up to lead a buyout of the electric car maker in a stunning move that would end the maverick company's eight-year history trading on the stock market.

In his typically unorthodox fashion, the eccentric Musk dropped his bombshell on his Twitter account, which he has used as a platform for pranks, vitriol and now for a proposal to pull off one of the biggest buyouts in

U.S. history.

Musk got the ball rolling Tuesday after the stock market had already been open more than three hours with a tweet announcing he had secured funding to buy all of Tesla's stock at \$420 per share with no further details.

At that price, the buyout would cost nearly \$72 billion, based on Tesla's outstanding stock as of July 27, but it's unlikely the deal would cost that much because Musk owns a roughly 20 percent stake in the Palo Alto, Calif., company. He also said he intends to

give Tesla's existing shareholders the option of retaining a stake in the company through a special fund if they want.

"Am considering taking Tesla private at \$420. Funding secured," Musk wrote in his first tweet, following up with "good morning" and a smiley emoji. He later tweeted that the only uncertainty about completing the deal is whether he can gain shareholder approval.

The first tweet came hours after the Financial Times reported that Saudi Arabia's sovereign

wealth fund had built a significant stake in Tesla, Inc., but it was unclear if that was the funding Musk was referring to. The Financial Times, citing unnamed people with direct knowledge of the matter, said Saudi Arabia's Public Investment Fund had built a stake of between 3 and 5 percent of Tesla's shares.

Musk's announcement was initially met with widespread skepticism, with many people connecting the proposed price to 420 being a common slang term for marijuana.

EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates	
Euro costs (Aug. 9)	\$1.1903
Dollar buys (Aug. 9)	69.8401
British pound (Aug. 9)	\$1.32
Japanese yen (Aug. 9)	109.00
South Korean won (Aug. 9)	1,090.00
Commercial rates (as of Aug. 7)	
Bahrain (Dinar)	0.3778
British pound	\$1.2935
Canada (Dollar)	1.3066
China (Yuan)	6.8327
Denmark (Krone)	6.4276
Egypt (Pound)	17.8793
Euro	\$1.1594/0.8625
Hong Kong (Dollar)	7.8496
Hungary (Forint)	275.38
Israel (Shekel)	3.6851
Japan (Yen)	111.43
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.3029
Norway (Krone)	8.2058
Philippines (Peso)	52.86
Poland (Zloty)	3.67
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7503
Singapore (Dollar)	1.3644
South Korea (Won)	1,118.27
Switzerland (Franc)	0.9956
Thailand (Baht)	33.23
Turkey (New Lira)	6.2575

Military exchange rates are those available to customers at military banking facilities in the country of issuance. For Japan, South Korea, Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom, or nonlocal currency exchange rates (i.e., purchasing British pounds in Germany), check with your local military banking facility. Commercial rates are interbank rates provided for reference when buying currency. All figures are foreign currencies to one dollar, except for the British pound, which is represented in dollars-to-pound, and the euro, which is dollars-to-euro.)

INTEREST RATES

Prime rate	5.00
Discount rate	2.50
Federals funds market rate	2.01
3-month bill	2.30
30-year bond	3.12

Twitter CEO defends decision on Infowars

Associated Press

LONDON — Twitter CEO Jack Dorsey defended his company's decision not to ban right-wing conspiracy theorist Alex Jones and his "Infowars" show, saying he does not break any rules.

Dorsey's remarks, in a series of

tweets late Tuesday, came after other major tech companies removed Jones' content for violating hate speech policies.

"We didn't suspend Alex Jones or Infowars yesterday," Dorsey said. "We know that's hard for many but the reason is simple: he hasn't violated our rules. We'll

enforce if he does."

Dorsey was responding after Facebook, Apple, YouTube and Spotify took down material over the past week published by Jones, reflecting more aggressive enforcement of their hate speech policies and raising pressure on Twitter to do the same.

MARKET WATCH

Aug. 7, 2018

Dow Jones Industrials	126.73
	25,628.91
Nasdaq composite	23.99
	7,883.66
Standard & Poor's 500	8.05
	2,858.45
Russell 2000	3.99
	1,688.30

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NATION

Child's remains found at remote NM compound

By MORGAN LEE
AND MARY HUDETZ
Associated Press

AMALIA, N.M. — For months, neighbors had been concerned about a squalid compound built along a remote New Mexico plain, saying they brought their concerns to authorities long before sheriff's officials first found 11 hungry children on the lot, and then the remains of a small boy.

Two men and three women also had been living at the compound, and were arrested following a raid Friday that came as officials searched for a missing Georgia boy with severe medical issues.

Medical examiners still must confirm whether the body found at the property in a second search on Monday is that of Abdul-ghani Wahhaj, who was 3 in December when police say his father took him from his mother in Jonesboro, Ga.

The boy's father, Siraj Ibn Wahhaj, was among those arrested in the compound raid that has since resulted in the series of startling revelations on the outskirts of Amalia, a tiny town near the Colorado state line marked by scattered homes and sagebrush. Authorities said they found the father armed with multiple firearms, including an assault rifle.

Wahhaj was scheduled to appear in court Wednesday on a warrant from Georgia that seeks his extradition to face a charge of abducting his son from that state last December. He had expressed wanting to perform an exorcism on his son, the warrant said.

The group arrived in Amalia in December with enough money to buy groceries and construction supplies, according to Tyler Anderson, 41, an auto mechanic who lives nearby.

He said Tuesday he helped the newcomers install solar panels

after they arrived but eventually stopped visiting.

Anderson said he met both of the men in the group, but never the women, who authorities have said are the mothers of the 11 children, ages 1 to 15.

Anderson did not recall seeing the Georgia boy who was missing. But he said some of the smaller children from the compound turned up to play with children at neighboring properties after the group first arrived.

"We just figured they were doing what we were doing, getting a piece of land and getting off the grid," said Anderson, who moved to New Mexico from Seattle with his wife seven years ago.

As the months passed, however, they stopped seeing the smaller children playing in the area. They also stopped hearing guns fired off at a shooting range on the property, he said.

Jason Badger, who owned the property where the compound was built, said he and his wife had pressed authorities to remove the group after becoming concerned about the children. The group had built the compound on their acreage instead of a neighboring tract owned by Lucas Morton, one of the men arrested during the raid.

A judge dismissed an eviction notice filed by Badger against Morton in June, court records said. The records did not provide further details on the decision.

After the raid, Anderson went over and looked at the property for the first time in months.

"I was flabbergasted from what it had turned into from the last time I saw it," he said.

The 11 children found living at the encampment — described as a small trailer embedded in the ground — had been without clean water and appeared to have not eaten in days, according to Taos County Sheriff Jerry Hogrefe.



MORGAN LEE/AP

Police tape restricts access to a disheveled living compound in Amalia, N.M., on Tuesday.



TATAN SYUFLANA/AP

Youths look at computer screens at an Internet cafe in Jakarta, Indonesia, in 2013.

Psych techniques used to keep kids online under fire

By LINDSEY TANNER
AND MATT O'BRIEN
Associated Press

CHICAGO — Children's advocates want the American Psychological Association to condemn the tech industry's practice of using persuasive psychological techniques to keep kids glued to their screens.

The advocates, citing research that links excessive use of social media and video games with depression and academic troubles, say it's unethical for psychologists to be involved in tactics that risk harming kids' well-being. Skeptics say the research is inconclusive, and they note that psychologists have been involved in other industries' marketing and advertising for decades.

The group seeking intervention includes 60 U.S. psychologists, researchers, children's advocates and the Children's Screen Time Action Network, a project of the Boston-based Campaign for a Commercial-Free Childhood. The network was publishing a letter Wednesday to the American Psychological Association, coinciding with the association's annual meeting in San Francisco.

"There are powerful psychology principles and technology that are being used against kids in ways that are not in their best interests," said Josh Golin, executive director of the Campaign for a Commercial-Free Childhood.

That technology uses computers to help figure out what motivates people and influences their online behavior. It's built on age-old tenets of behavioral psychology that marketers and advertisers have long used to get people to buy their products. The difference is smartphones are ubiquitous and, unlike human marketers, they don't get tired, said B.J. Fogg, a

behavioral scientist at Stanford University who has been called the technology's pioneer.

Fogg said he has aimed to use persuasive tech to enhance people's lives. But he also said he has long warned that it has a "dark side," including potential loss of privacy and the potential for encouraging behavior that isn't in users' best interests.

The letter to the psychology association cites a recent study that found that teen girls who spend a lot of time on digital devices, including on social media, are at risk for depression and suicidal behaviors. That study couldn't show whether depressed girls might be more prone to using social media than other teens.

The letter also notes evidence that some teen boys overuse video games "at the expense of obtaining real-world competencies," including college educations and jobs.

"Families don't understand why their kids are so strongly attracted and pulled to these devices," said Richard Freed, a Walnut Creek, California, psychologist who signed the letter. He said the World Health Organization's decision in June to declare excessive video gaming an addiction shows that the problem is real.

Under Fogg's model, technology can change a person's behavior by tapping into hard-wired motivations, simplifying the activity and getting people to perform it with a "well-timed" trigger. That could mean an app prompting a person to go running or it could be an alert persuading someone to spend more time on social media based on their innate desire to win acceptance and avoid social rejection.

It's not just the big tech firms. BuzzFeed reported Tuesday, based on a confidential company

memo, that founders of a startup recently acquired by Facebook boasted of using a "psychological trick" — custom social media profiles and mysterious calls to action — to get high schoolers to download a polling app. Facebook later shut down the app.

In job postings, big tech companies have sought psychologists and people with psychology training for research into user experiences. Microsoft's Xbox user research division is led by psychologists. Amazon looks for hires who "geek out over user research, psychology, ethnography." Google's preferred qualification for some positions includes a doctorate in experimental psychology.

"We strive to learn and understand our users' needs, behaviors, and emotions to yield insights that inform product strategy and guide the design of the experiences we create," says one Google job posting online this week.

Facebook and Google didn't return requests for comment Tuesday on whether they use psychological persuasion techniques to build digital products for children. Microsoft, Apple and Amazon declined to comment.

This year, those companies have promoted better digital well-being amid rising concerns about kids' digital distractions.

The Internet Association, an industry trade group, said its member companies endeavor to create safe and positive online experiences.

"This is an important conversation, and the internet industry remains committed to developing and sharing best practices, partnering and collaborating with experts, and developing resources and programs that will ensure positive online experiences," the association's Noah Thernan said in the statement.

SCIENCE

Probe to travel closer than ever to sun

By MARCIA DUNN
Associated Press

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. — A red-hot voyage to the sun is going to bring us closer to our star than ever before.

NASA's Parker Solar Probe will be the first spacecraft to "touch" the sun, hurtling through the sizzling solar atmosphere and coming within just 3.8 million miles of the surface.

It's designed to take solar punishment like never before, thanks to its revolutionary heat shield that's capable of withstanding 2,500 degrees F.

Liftoff is set for the pre-dawn hours of Saturday for this first-of-its-kind mission to a star.

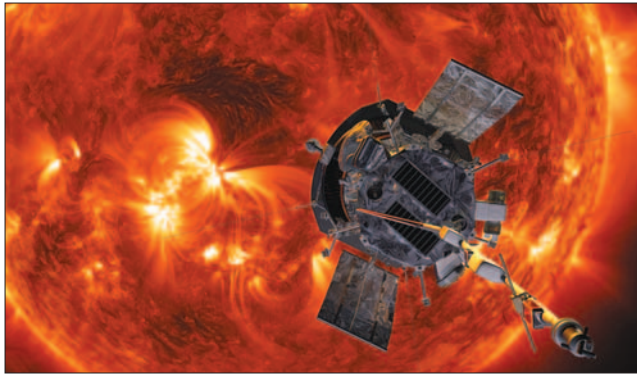
"The coolest, hottest mission, baby, that's what it is," said Nicola Fox, the project scientist at Johns Hopkins University.

Roughly the size of a small car, Parker will get nearly seven times closer to the sun than previous spacecraft. To snuggle up to the sun, it will fly past Venus seven times over seven years. Each flyby will provide an orbit-shaping gravity boost, drawing it ever closer to the sun and straight into the corona — the sun's outermost atmosphere.

The closer the better for figuring out why the corona is hundreds of times hotter than the sun's surface. Another mystery scientists hope to solve: What drives the solar wind? That's the steady, supersonic stream of charged particles blasting off the corona and into space in all directions.

"There are missions that are studying the solar wind, but we're going to get to the birthplace," Fox said.

Scientists expect the \$1.5 billion mission to shed light not only on our own dynamic sun but on the billions of other yellow dwarf stars — and other types of stars



STEVE GRIBBEN, JOHNS HOPKINS APL, NASA/AP

An artist's rendering shows the Parker Solar Probe approaching the sun.

—out there in the Milky Way and beyond. While granting us life, the sun also has the power to disrupt spacecraft in orbit and communications and electronics on Earth.

"This is where we live," said NASA solar astrophysicist Alex Young.

"We have to understand and characterize this place that we're traveling through."

The project was proposed in 1958 to a brand-new NASA, and "60 years later, and it's becoming a reality," said project manager Andy Driesman, also of Johns Hopkins, which designed and built the spacecraft. The technology for surviving such a close solar encounter, while still being light enough for flight, wasn't available until now.

Parker's 8-foot heat shield is

just 4½ inches thick. Sandwiched between two carbon sheets is a custom white ceramic coating to reflect sunlight; it's expected to glow cherry red when bombarded by the extreme solar heat.

Almost everything on the spacecraft will be behind this and thus in room temperature shade while ducking through the jagged edges of the corona, without so much as a blister on its science instruments.

The spacecraft will hit 430,000 mph in the corona at closest approach. That's equivalent to going from Washington to Philadelphia in a split second. Or Chicago to Beijing in under a minute.

This is the first NASA spacecraft to be named after someone still alive.

Eugene Parker, 91, professor

emeritus at the University of Chicago, predicted the existence of solar wind 60 years ago. He plans to be at Cape Canaveral for the launch. United Launch Alliance's Delta IV Heavy rocket is providing the muscle.

Parker got to inspect the spacecraft last fall. He said he's "holding my breath that everything goes well."

"This is a journey into never-never land, you might say, where it's too hot for any sensible spacecraft to function," Parker told Johns Hopkins' Fox in a recent interview. "But some very clever engineering and construction have succeeded in making what looks like a very workable instrument."

The spacecraft holds photos of Parker as well as a copy of his 1958 research paper on what

he termed solar wind. Despite skepticism, NASA's Mariner 2 spacecraft proved Parker right in 1962.

Also on board are more than 1 million names of space fans submitted to NASA this past spring.

It's a fast-paced mission, with the first Venus encounter occurring less than two months after liftoff, in early October, and the first brush with the sun in November.

In all, the spacecraft will make 24 elongated laps around the sun, closer than the orbit of Mercury, the innermost planet. The records will start falling with the first orbit, when the Parker probe comes within 15.5 million miles of the sun and beats the current record holder, NASA's former Helios 2 spacecraft. Helios 2 got within 27 million miles of the sun in 1976.

Fox puts it this way: If the sun and Earth were on opposite ends of a football field, Mercury would be at the sun's 35-yard line, Helios 2 at the 29-yard line and the Parker probe at the 4-yard line.

NASA's Messenger, which orbited Mercury from 2011 to 2015, provided insight into the solar wind but was too far away.

"You know something exciting is just around the bend, but where you're sitting you can't see what that is," Fox said. "So really the only way we can now do it is to do this daring mission to plunge into the corona."

The Parker probe's final three orbits — in 2024 and 2025 — will be the closest. The spacecraft eventually will run out of fuel and, no longer able to keep its heat shield pointed toward the sun, will burn and break apart — except perhaps for the rugged heat shield.

"It's a pretty tough shield," said Fox.

Remains buried at Stonehenge offer clue to where they came from

By DEBORAH NETBURN
Los Angeles Times

At least some of the people who were buried at Stonehenge died and were cremated far from the site — probably in west Wales about 120 miles away, according to a new study.

The finding, published in Scientific Reports, provides another small clue to understanding who was buried at the prehistoric monument around 3000 B.C. and how they came to be there.

The cremated remains of more than 50 individuals were first excavated from Stonehenge in the 1920s. They were discovered in a series of 56 pits known as Aubrey Holes in the inner circumference of the monument.

Because the remains of those ancient people had obviously been cremated before they were buried, archaeologists at the time decided to dump them all back into one hole — Aubrey Hole 7.

"Cremated remains did not have much value in the 1920s," said Christophe Snoeck, a post-doctoral researcher in geochemistry and archaeology at Vrije University of Brussels in Belgium. "Unfortunately, all



TNS

Researchers at Stonehenge studied the remains of 25 individuals and found that 10 of them had not lived in the area before their deaths.

the remains were simply re-buried."

What these 20th-century researchers couldn't know is that nearly 100 years later Snoeck would discover that these burned bones could still talk.

In 2015, Snoeck showed it was possible to use a process called strontium isotope analysis even on bones that had been heat-

ed up to 1,800 degrees F.

"Strontium isotope analysis has been used for decades to reveal the mobility of human and fauna, but exclusively on unburned material," he said. "I demonstrated that cremated bone fragments could also be used in such studies, opening the possibility to study many more sites, including Stonehenge."

Different types of bedrock display different ratios of two strontium isotopes — strontium-87 and strontium-86. Plants absorb strontium as they grow, and as people eat those plants the strontium passes into their bones and teeth.

By creating a map of strontium isotope ratios across a geographical area and comparing that with those found in a bone fragment, scientists can determine a human or animal's place of origin — or at least where they spent the majority of the last 70 years before they died.

In this study, the researchers identified bone fragments belonging to 25 distinct individuals that had been buried at Stonehenge. The strontium isotope analysis revealed that the bones of 15 of those people exhibited the same strontium isotope

ratio that existed in the area around the monument.

The results from the other 10, however, showed that these people did not consume food grown in the local area alone.

Snoeck said the results were unexpected.

"We expected to see some people that were not local, but so many was a surprise," he said.

The researchers can't be totally sure where these 10 people came from, but the strontium isotope ratios in their bones are consistent with a region in west Wales that is known to be the source of some of the stones in the monument.

Further analysis also suggested that the wood fuel that was used to cremate some of these people did not come from the area around the monument either.

One possible interpretation of these findings is that a group of humans transported stones from west Wales to Stonehenge along with the cremated remains of their dead.

When they raised the stones at Stonehenge, perhaps they buried their dead at the same time, the authors wrote.

WORLD

Indonesia quake deaths top 130

Aid effort intensifies, reaches remote areas

By ANDI JATMIKO
Associated Press

BANGSAL, Indonesia — Aid began reaching isolated areas of the Indonesian island struggling after an earthquake that killed at least 131 people as rescuers Wednesday doubled down on efforts to find those buried in the rubble.

Volunteers and rescue personnel were erecting more temporary shelters for the tens of thousands left homeless on Lombok by the magnitude 7.0 quake Sunday evening.

Water, which has been in short supply due to a prolonged dry spell on the island, as well as food and medical supplies were being distributed from trucks.

The military said five planes carrying food, medicine, blankets, field tents and water tankers left Jakarta for the island early Wednesday.

The national disaster agency's

spokesman, Sutopo Purwo Nugroho, said at a news conference 131 people were confirmed dead, up from 105 announced Tuesday.

He said reports of other deaths still need to be verified, and the toll is expected to increase.

Nearly 2,500 people have been hospitalized with serious injuries and more than 156,000 people are displaced due to the extensive damage to thousands of homes. Thousands of people have been sleeping in makeshift shelters or out in the open.

At a collapsed mosque in Bangsal district, emergency workers in orange uniforms removed a woman's body from the ruins Wednesday morning. A green and yellow dome rested on the pile of rubble, the only part of the structure still intact.

Authorities said all the tourists who wanted to be evacuated from three outlying vacation islands due to power blackouts and damage to hotels had left by boat,



Rescue teams continue to search for victims in the collapsed Jamiul Jamaah Mosque in Bangsal, North Lombok, Indonesia, on Wednesday after Sunday's powerful earthquake.

TATAN SYUFLANA/AP

some 5,000 people in all.

The quake was the second in a week to hit Lombok. A magnitude 6.4 earthquake on July 29 killed 16 people and cracked and weakened many structures, amplifying the damage that occurred in Sunday's quake.

Like its famous neighbor Bali, Lombok is known for beaches, mountains and a lush interior. Hotels and other buildings in both lo-

cations are not allowed to exceed the height of coconut trees.

Indonesia is prone to earthquakes because of its location on the "Ring of Fire," an arc of volcanoes and fault lines in the Pacific Basin.

In December 2004, a massive magnitude 9.1 earthquake off Sumatra triggered a tsunami that killed 230,000 people in a dozen countries.

Maduro: 2 legislators linked to attack

By SCOTT SMITH
Associated Press

CARACAS, Venezuela — President Nicolas Maduro has accused two opposition legislators of having roles in the drone attack that Venezuelan officials have called an assassination attempt on the leader, and his allies are moving against the accused.

The head of Venezuela's pro-government constitutional assembly said he would have the body take up a proposal Wednesday to strip the lawmakers of their immunity from prosecution.

During a national television broadcast Tuesday night, Maduro said statements from some of the six suspects already arrested in the weekend attack pointed to key financiers and others, including Julio Borges, one of the country's most prominent opposition leaders who is a lawmaker but is living in exile in Colombia.

"Several of the declarations indicated Julio Borges. The investigations point to him," Maduro said, though he provided no details on Borges' alleged role.

Borges did not immediately comment on Maduro's accusation.

The president also named opposition lawmaker Juan Requesens, who was seen in a video widely circulating on social media being arrested by Venezuela's political police force.

Critics of Maduro's socialist government had said immediately after the attack that they feared the unpopular leader would use the incident as an excuse to round up opposition politicians as he seeks to dampen spreading discontent over Venezuela's devastating economic collapse.

In the attack, two drones armed with explosives detonated near Maduro as he spoke outdoors during a military celebration Saturday evening. Images on live television showed Maduro and his wife looking up at the sky at one blast and then hundreds of soldiers scrambling.

Prosecutors have arrested six people who face charges of treason, attempted murder and terrorism.

As elected lawmakers, Borges and Requesens enjoy immunity from prosecution under Venezuela's law. But Diosdado Cabello, the powerful socialist party leader and president of the National Constitutional Assembly, said in a tweet that he planned to introduce legislation stripping lawmakers of this protection.

Maduro has grown increasingly isolated, with the United States and other foreign powers slapping economic sanctions on a growing list of high-ranking Venezuelan officials and criticizing his government as an autocratic regime.

The International Monetary Fund projects inflation could top 1 million percent by year's end.

Ebola spreading in Congo in active war zone

By MAX BEARAK
The Washington Post

NAIROBI, Kenya — Just one week after an outbreak of the Ebola virus was extinguished in northwestern Congo, a new one was declared far away in the country's conflict-hit northeast.

This is Congo's 10th Ebola outbreak since the 1970s, and some health officials are worried it might be the hardest to contain.

The new outbreak is centered on a thickly populated stretch of Congo's eastern border with Uganda — an area that is also the epicenter of decadeslong clashes between dozens of militias that have forced millions into squalid refugee camps.

While Congo has experienced the most outbreaks of the Ebola virus, this is the first time it has cropped up in this part of the country. Lab tests have confirmed that it is the same strain as the previous outbreak, which started in early May, but there is no indication the outbreaks are related.

There are already 25 suspected cases in the city of Beni, a center for displaced people and home to 350,000 in its own right. There are also two probable cases in Butembo, a city of nearly 1 million and a key trading hub between Congo and Uganda.

"We are still in the early days and there are lots of unanswered questions," said Peter Salama, the World Health Organization's head of emergency response.



JOHN BOMPENGO/AP

Congoese health officials prepare to disinfect people and buildings at a hospital in Mbandaka, Congo, on May 31. At least four new cases of the Ebola virus have emerged in Congo's northeast.

"But we are expecting this one to be significantly more costly and complex than the last."

At least 43 people are believed to have been infected in North Kivu province, including 36 who have died, Congo's Health Ministry said Tuesday; 16 of the cases were confirmed to be Ebola.

As in most past outbreaks, this one likely began to spread quickly when one of the initial victims died and was buried by family members who were unaware that touching the deceased's body would infect them.

Equateur outbreak enormously complex are present in the new one in North Kivu," said Salama. "Urban centers, infected health care workers, proximity to international borders — it's all there. There are numerous areas of North Kivu and neighboring Ituri provinces that are highly volatile and often cut off entirely by them."

The conflict makes one essential component in preventing Ebola's spread particularly difficult — tracing the contacts of those who are suspected to be infected. There are numerous areas of North Kivu and neighboring Ituri provinces that are highly volatile and often cut off entirely by clashes.

"Beni is more or less surrounded by armed groups," said Nicolas Lambert, the deputy leader of the International Committee of the Red Cross in Congo, who is in Beni. "We have an ongoing dialogue with several of them to negotiate the safety of our health workers."

"But, more importantly, we must all work to stop the outbreak before it becomes lodged in areas with more active fighting." Experimental vaccines that were successfully deployed in Equateur are in the process of being delivered to the area around Beni. More than 3,000 were leftover in Congo from the last outbreak, and a WHO spokesman told reporters in Geneva on Tuesday that vaccinations of health care workers in North Kivu would start Wednesday.

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Bon Appetit names City of the Year for food

ME PORTLAND — One of the most widely read food magazines said there's no better city for restaurants than Portland.

Bon Appetit published an article on its website Tuesday that declared Maine's largest city the 2018 Restaurant City of the Year. Deputy editor Andrew Knowlton wrote the article, which says the "sheer number of outstanding openings" in the city have made it the top food destination in the country this year.

Other recent City of the Year winners have included much larger metropolises like Washington and Chicago. Portland is the smallest city to get the honor.

Police await evidence to emerge in drug case

MA TEWKSBURY — Police in Massachusetts sought a search warrant for the bowel movements of a man suspected of swallowing heroin they think he intended to sell.

The Boston Herald reported that undercover Tewksbury officers pulled over Raul Sanchez-Gomez and Hector Guerrero, suspected of planning to sell heroin. Both were charged with drug trafficking. Two detectives reported that the two suspects had sold them heroin.

Although a police dog did not find any drugs in their vehicle, officers said Sanchez-Gomez appeared to be choking while trying to swallow drugs.

Tewksbury Police Chief Timothy Sheehan told The Sun of Lowell that Sanchez-Gomez remained under surveillance in jail.

Bachelor party guest drowns during contest

GA MILLEDGEVILLE — A bachelor party contest to see who could stay underwater the longest ended in death when one competitor didn't resurface, police said.

Baldwin County sheriff's Capt. Brad King told news outlets Robert Zachary "Zach" Bunsu, 23, of Basking Ridge, N.J., drowned Saturday at Georgia's Lake Sinclair.

King said Bunsu was trying to see how long he could hold his breath, but didn't come back up.

Georgia Department of Natural Resources Cpl. Lynn Stanford said around 15 men at the party didn't realize he was still in the water, and went to the house to look for him.

Stanford said it was more than seven minutes before someone realized he was still in the lake. One of them dived down and pulled him out.

Storm rips steeple from roof of church

SC LANGLEY — Workers were assessing the damage after a storm tore the steeple off the roof of a church, where it fell in a courtyard.

Crews were working to stabilize the steeple's base at Langley First Baptist Church. The base

THE CENSUS

4.5K

The weight in pounds of peanut butter collected to help support hungry children in New Hampshire. The New Hampshire Food Bank and Ford Motor Co. collected the jars as part of an annual peanut butter drive. Ford started its national peanut butter drive in 2014 and has collected enough since then to spread on more than 2.5 million sandwiches.



RUSS DILLINGHAM, (LEWISTON, MAINE) SUN JOURNAL/AP

Along for the ride

Jenn Siros, of Auburn, Maine, gives her 10-year-old pug mix dog, Buddha, a ride down Parker Street in Auburn, Maine, on Monday.

was still perched atop the sanctuary after the main part of the structure crashed to the ground Monday afternoon.

The Augusta Chronicle reported that no one was injured.

The National Weather Service's Columbia office reported winds of around 20 to 30 mph during a storm.

Police: Woman tired of waiting, took ambulance

KY MOUNT VERNON — Police said a Kentucky woman became frustrated while waiting for a ride from a hospital, and drove off in a running ambulance.

Mount Vernon Police Chief Brian Carter told news outlets Pamela Cash, 51, became impatient waiting for relatives at Rockcastle County Hospital on Monday. Nearby, an ambulance was left running as hospital staff prepared a patient for transport.

So, Carter said, Cash got in and drove off.

She drove around 3 miles to the Christian Appalachian Project, where an employee, Jenny King,

said she saw Cash looking into parked cars.

Cash was arrested on charges of criminal mischief and theft by unlawful taking over \$10,000.

Cops: Woman left kids in car, attacked rescuer

LA KENNER — Police said a woman was accused of leaving her 3-year-old and her 11-month-old children inside a hot vehicle with the windows rolled up in Louisiana.

A Kenner police news release said Shawnee Sherman, 22, arrived in the parking lot of a shopping strip Sunday and left the children unattended more than an hour. Recorded temperatures that day were around 90 degrees.

News outlets reported a bystander found the children and removed them from the locked vehicle with the help of others. At some point, Sherman approached the witnesses and physically attacked the person who called 911.

Sherman was arrested and charged with child desertion and simple battery.

UConn's mascot part of wedding party

CT SIMSBURY — The Siberian husky that serves as the mascot for the University of Connecticut helped two alumni get married.

Jonathan XIV served as an assistant ring bearer for Daniel and Holly Bronko last month as they tied the knot in Simsbury. He had the ring box on his collar as he walked up the aisle.

The pair, who live in South Windsor, met in 2013 while studying elementary education and working at the UConn recreation center.

Man starts ride-hailing service with a twist

MI COLON — Look out Lyft, move over Uber. A southern Michigan man has launched a horse-and-buggy ride-hailing service.

WWMT-TV reported Timothy Hochstedler dubs his service "Amish Uber," though he's not a driver for the company. A sign on the side of his buggy reads,

"Amish Horse & Buggy Rides \$5," and he offers trips around the St. Joseph County community of Colon.

There's no app to hail this horse-and-buggy; would-be customers have to flag it down.

Officials: Sinkhole to take 2 years to fill

NM CARLSBAD — A massive sinkhole on the southern edge of Carlsbad and along a busy intersection will take officials two years to fill.

The Hobbs News-Sun reported New Mexico Department of Transportation engineer Tim Parker said recently the \$43 million project will proceed 24 hours a day, seven days a week as workers fill in the sinkhole with 300,000 to 1 million cubic yards of materials.

He said 26 to 28 wells will be drilled over the sinkhole in a grid pattern which will be used to pump materials into the sinkhole. The sinkhole is a former brine well which was closed in 2008 when the ground was deemed unstable.

From wire reports

FACES

TELEVISION NEWS



CHRIS PIZZELLO, INVISION/AP

From left, Afton Williamson, Nathan Fillion and Alyssa Diaz are part of the cast of the new ABC series "The Rookie." The trio took part in a Q&A session during the 2018 Television Critics Association Summer Press Tour on Tuesday. Fillion said at the event that his "knees would appreciate it" if he can have a stuntman do the running for him.

Fillion ready for action — sort of

Associated Press

Nathan Fillion is ready for action as a police officer in ABC's new drama "The Rookie" — up to a point.

Fillion told a TV critics' meeting Tuesday that his "knees would appreciate it" if he can have a stuntman do the running for him.

The 47-year-old actor joked that at this point in his life, "kneeling is a stunt for me."

In "The Rookie," Fillion plays a man whose midlife crisis leads him to the Los Angeles Police Department.

Fillion, who starred in ABC's "Castle," said he believes there's a cultural wave of people reinventing their lives like his character in "The Rookie."

The drama, which includes Richard T. Jones, Afton Williamson and Alyssa Diaz in the cast, debuts Oct. 16.

Ruby Rose cast as lesbian superhero for The CW

Ruby Rose is making history with her latest role as Batwoman, the first openly gay superhero to headline a TV series.

Batwoman will be introduced in a December crossover event between the network's other DC Comics shows, "Arrow," "The Flash" and "Supergirl."

A stand-alone series about Batwoman, whose real name is Kate Kane, is in development for the 2019-20 TV season. Kane is described as a highly-trained street fighter with a passion for social justice and a flair for speaking her mind.

Rose wrote Tuesday on Instagram that she's "thrilled and honored" and "an emotional wreck" over the news. As a young, gay person, she never felt represented on TV.

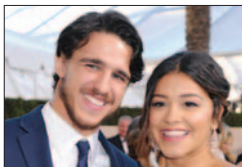
Rose gained stardom when she was cast in season three of Netflix's "Orange Is the New Black."

Gina Rodriguez is engaged to 'a really cool partner'

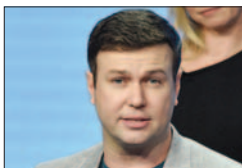
Gina Rodriguez credits "Jane the Virgin" with many things: changing her career (she won a Golden Globe for her



Ruby Rose



Joe LoCicero, left, and Gina Rodriguez



Taran Killam

work on The CW series in 2015), giving her a platform for activism and humanitarian work, and leading her to the love of her life.

She is now engaged to Joe LoCicero, who she met when he guest-starred in an episode of the show in 2016.

"I never was the girl that dreamt about my wedding," said Rodriguez, 34, in an interview Tuesday. "I did always pray that I would meet a really cool partner,

whether it was going to be male or female, that I was going to have somebody that was going to uplift me and support me and want me to shine and not want to take away from that but want to shine as well in their own right and I found it in Joe, and I found it on the set of 'Jane.'"

Rodriguez revealed details of their relationship while on a media tour for the feminine products company Always. The brand wants to bring awareness to what's known as "period poverty," where American girls from low-income families miss school because they don't have access to menstrual products.

Rodriguez is returning to work on "Jane the Virgin" this week. She'll direct the first episode of the upcoming fifth and final season. She said she knows how the series will end, but doesn't know exactly how the writers will get there. She also said fans of the show are "not getting gypped" by its ending because the creator, Jennie Snyder Urman, always imagined it as a story told in five chapters.

"As much as people are saddened that the show is going to be done after season five ... you're getting the gift of the whole thing. Everything Jennie ever thought of."

Post-'SNL,' Killam relishes challenge of one character

Taran Killam bounced from one character to the next on "Saturday Night Live," tossing out impersonations of everyone from Brad Pitt to Eminem to Matthew McConaughey each week.

Then the bottom dropped out.

In August 2016, Killam, along with Jay Pharoah, was let go from the late-night sketch comedy institution. Killam had one year left on his seven-year contract. Now, he's bouncing back with the ABC comedy "Single Parents," debuting Sept. 26 on ABC. Killam plays a 30-something dad who is so focused on raising his daughter that he's lost sight of who he is as a man.

Not that he has any experience as a single dad. In real life, Killam and actress-wife Cobie Smulders have two young daughters.

HGTV will buy Brady Bunch house, Discovery CEO says

HGTV is the winning bidder for the Brady Bunch house in Studio City, Calif., beating out a small crowd of buyers that included 'N Sync singer Lance Bass.

Discovery Inc. Chief Executive David Zaslav announced the news Tuesday on an earnings call with Wall Street analysts. Earlier this year, Discovery completed acquisition of Scripps Networks Interactive, which includes cable networks as HGTV, in a \$12 billion deal.

"One of our projects for HGTV will speak to those Brady Bunch fans on the call," Zaslav said. "... I'm excited to share that HGTV is the winning bidder and will restore the Brady Bunch home to its 1970s glory as only HGTV can. More detail to come over the next few months, but we'll bring all the resources to bear to tell safe, fun stories about this beloved piece of American TV history."

According to Douglas Elliman agent Ernie Carswell, who holds the listing, the property received eight offers from buyers. The seller of the home, listed for \$1.885 million, selected the ultimate prevailing bid and a backup.

Among those in the running was Bass, who publicly announced on social media that his offer for the Studio City house had been accepted. But a day later, in a subsequent message, Bass said he was "heartbroken" to learn of a "corporate buyer (Hollywood studio) who wants the house at any cost."

Pink cancels 4th Sydney show, vows to be on stage Saturday

Pop superstar Pink on Wednesday postponed a fourth Sydney show but vowed to be back on stage Saturday following a stomach virus.

Her Beautiful Trauma world tour's first concert in Sydney was scheduled for last Friday, but she canceled that show on doctor's orders. The 38-year-old battled through a Saturday night rainstorm.

Promoter Live Nation said Pink was admitted to a hospital on Sunday suffering from dehydration and was discharged. But she was readmitted and diagnosed with a gastric virus hours before her Monday concert was due to begin. She was discharged from the hospital the next day, but Tuesday night's concert was canceled.

Pink said Thursday's concert would be the fourth and last cancellation.

"Our next show will be Saturday, and until then I will be drinking green tea and spending time with my kids," Pink posted on Instagram.

"My sincere apologies to any of the ticket holders that this has affected," she said.

Other news

■ Ronnie Dunn of country duo Brooks & Dunn and singer-songwriter K.T. Oslin will join the Nashville Songwriters Hall of Fame this year. The organization announced its newest inductees Tuesday. They also include songwriters Byron Hill, Wayne Kirkpatrick and Key Melson. They will be formally inducted in October.

■ Three Xavier University of Louisiana students are among a group receiving scholarships thanks to actor and comedian Kevin Hart's Help From The Hart Charity. Hart has joined forces with the United Negro College Fund and KIPP — Knowledge Is Power Program — to help 18 students earn a college degree. The scholarship program provides funding to support KIPP students from eight cities attending 11 historically black colleges and universities.

■ Writer and producer Colby Wedgeworth leads the Dove Awards with eight nominations while artist Taren Wells has seven nominations, including song of the year and new artist of the year. The Gospel Music Association announced the nominees Wednesday for the 49th Annual GMA Dove Awards, to be held Oct. 16 in Nashville. Zach Williams has six nominations, and Cory Asbury, Tasha Cobbs Leonard and TobyMac have five nominations each. In the artist of the year category, Williams and Leonard are nominated, along with Hillsong UNITED, MercyMe and NEEDTOBREATHE.

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Max D. Lederer Jr., Publisher
Lt. Col. Sean Klrnek, Europe commander
Lt. Col. Richard McClintic, Pacific commander
Harry Eley, Europe Business Operations

EDITORIAL

Terry Leonard, Editor
leonard.terry@stripes.com
Robert H. Reid, Senior Managing Editor
reid.robert@stripes.com
Tina Croley, Managing Editor for Content
croley.tina@stripes.com
Sean Moores, Managing Editor for Presentation
moores.sean@stripes.com
Joe Gromelski, Managing Editor for Digital
gromelski.joe@stripes.com

BUREAU STAFF

Europe/Mideast

Erk Slavin, Europe & Mideast
slavin.erk@stripes.com
+49(0)631.3615.9350, DSN (314)583.9350

Pacific

Aaron Kidd, Pacific Bureau Chief
kidd.aaron@stripes.com
+81.422.552.2511 ext. 88380, DSN (315)227.7380

Washington

Joseph Caccioli, Washington Bureau Chief
caccioli.joseph@stripes.com
DSN (312)763.0908, DSN (312)763.0908
Brian Bowers, Assistant Managing Editor, News
bowers.brian@stripes.com

CIRCULATION

Mideast
Robert Reismann, reismann.robert@stripes.com
+49(0)631.3615.9150, DSN (314)583.9150

Europe

Van Rowell, rowell.van@stripes.com
+49(0)631.3615.9111, DSN (314)583.9111

Pacific

Mari Mori, customerhelp@stripes.com
+81.3.6385.3171, DSN (315)229.3171

CONTACT US

Washington

tel. +1(202) 761.0900, DSN (312)763.0900;
529 14th Street NW, Suite 350, Washington, DC
20045-1301

Reader letters

letters@stripes.com

Additional contacts

stripes.com/contacts

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OPINION

When a pro-Trump vet sees his wife deported

By DANA MILBANK
Washington Post Writers Group

ST. TEMO JUEZARE was a President Donald Trump guy. An Iraq combat veteran who served as a Marine infantryman and then an Army National Guardsman, his friends called him a "super conservative." With his wife, he brought up their two daughters in Central Florida. He supported Trump in 2016, eager for a change.

But now, "I am eating my words," he told the military newspaper Stars and Stripes in an interview published last week. On Friday, Juezare and his family became the latest victims of Trump's zero tolerance policy on immigration.

On that day, his wife, Alejandra, left the country under a deportation order. She had come to the United States from Mexico illegally as a teenager two decades ago and had until now been living undisturbed with Temo, a naturalized U.S. citizen, and daughters, both natural-born Americans. This week, Temo will fly to Mexico with his daughters, 9-year-old Estela and 16-year-old Pamela — and leave his younger daughter there, even though English is her first language. He can't do his construction job and take care of her in Florida by himself.

Temo Juezare believed Trump would deport only illegal immigrants who were criminals, and his wife had no record.

Instead, as the family fought Alejandra's deportation, young Estela, with unicorns on her T-shirt, wept as she spoke to TV cameras: "I really don't want to stay with my mom and dad. I want us to be together and stay in my house. I don't want to go to Mexico. I want to stay here."

For Sgt. Juezare, this was the Trump administration's unique way of saying, "Thank you for your service."

Trump's "family separation" policy is most visible on the border. Last week, the administration said it still had not reunited 572 immigrant children it separated from their parents. The administration, in a court filing last week, said it should be up to the American Civil Liberties Union — the group that sued over family separation — to locate the parents.

But as the Juezare case shows, the wanton cruelty of the immigration policy isn't limited to new arrivals. "Zero tolerance literally ripped this family apart," Rep. Darren Soto, D-Fla., the Juezares' congressman, told me Monday. "The administration is so extreme on immigration that they're deporting the spouses of military veterans."

Soto and colleagues introduced legislation and wrote letters to help the Juezare family. No use.

At political rallies, Trump often exults, "Go home, you veterans!" He also talks about illegal immigrants who "infect" the country.

In real life, the ones Trump loves and the ones Trump demonizes are not so far apart. Immigration and Customs Enforcement told me it doesn't track the number of military spouses subject to deportation. But the advocacy group American Families United, extrapolating from census figures, estimates there are as many as 11,800 active-duty military servicemembers with a spouse or family member vulnerable to deportation. And that doesn't include veterans' families.

Since the Marquis de Lafayette during the Revolutionary War, and the Irish Brigade during the Civil War, immigrants

have had a central role in the U.S. military. That's true now, too, said Jon Soltz, an Iraq veteran who founded the group VetsVets. If zero tolerance is enforced, he said, it will feel as if "everybody has a family member who is affected."

As many as 1,000 foreign nationals, recruited to the military for their critical language or medical skills, face potential discharge over delays in background checks. The Trump administration's removal of protected status for Salvadorans and Haitians means many more military family members will face deportation. Many veterans themselves have been deported because of missed application deadlines.

ICE, in a statement, says it "removed Alejandra Juezare, a citizen and national of Mexico, to her home country." ICE said she had attempted in 1998 to enter the country by falsely claiming she was a U.S. citizen and was issued an "expedited order of removal."

She returned, illegally, and remained without incident until a traffic stop led ICE to reinstate her removal order in 2013. But the Obama administration did not prioritize the deportation of military family members.

These are different times. Juezare hasn't spoken much in public about his family's ordeal. But in the Stars and Stripes interview, he spoke about preparing his daughters for the impending family separation. "I've been preaching to them you've got to be mentally tough — pretty much what they teach you in the Army."

But nothing the military taught him could have prepared him for the cruelty his country just inflicted on his family.

As China masters AI, US building aircraft carriers

By DAVID IGNATIUS
Washington Post Writers Group

WILL THE PENTAGON, with its 30-year planning cycle for building ships, still be launching aircraft carriers in 2048 — even though they're highly vulnerable to attack today?

That's an example of the military modernization questions that kept nagging participants at the recent gathering of the Aspen Strategy Group, which annually brings together top-level current and former national security officials, along with a few journalists, to discuss defense and foreign policy. This year's focus was on "Maintaining America's Edge" in the dawn of age of high-tech combat, and the big takeaway was this: The future of warfare is now, and China is poised to dominate it.

Speakers at the conference described a new generation of combat systems, powered by artificial intelligence, cyberweapons and robots that can operate on land, sea and in the air. But America is still largely wedded to legacy weapons of the past — superbly engineered (but super-expensive) aircraft carriers, bombers, fighter jets and submarines.

"We have a small number of exquisite, expensive, manned, hard-to-replace systems that would have to be replaced," said Eisenhower. They are being overtaken by advanced technology," argued Christian Brose, staff director of the Senate Armed Services Committee. Instead, he said, the Pentagon needs a large number of inexpensive, unmanned, expendable, autonomous systems that can survive in the new electronic battlespace and overwhelm any potential adversary.

"It is not that we lack money. It is that we are playing a losing game," Brose contended in a paper presented to the group. "Our competitors are now using advanced technologies to erode our military edge. This situation is becoming increasingly dire."

Future needs are being overwhelmed by past practices, because of what Brose's boss, Armed Services Committee Chairman Sen. John McCain, has called the "military-industrial-congressional complex." Brose calculates that in the Pentagon's fiscal year 2018, \$74 billion in new defense spending in fiscal 2019, only 0.006 percent was targeted for science and technology. The National Science Foundation estimates that in fiscal 2015, only 18 percent of the Pentagon's research and development budget went for basic, applied and advanced research. Major systems clank at least 10 years before they are replaced.

Even when the Pentagon tries to push innovation, it often stumbles. When Ash Carter was defense secretary under President Barack Obama, he created the Defense Innovation Unit Experimental, with offices in Silicon Valley, Boston and Austin, Texas. The program's first initiative, negotiating 60 contracts with startups. The program has slowed under the Trump administration, despite support from Defense Secretary Jim Mattis, because it lacks funds and bureaucratic support, warned Christopher Kirchhoff, a former DIUX leader. If Mattis can appoint a strong new DIUX leader soon, maybe he can revive this innovation hub.

The biggest technological challenge discussed here was artificial intelligence. In a few years, these systems have taught themselves to play complex games like chess and "Go" better than humans, and to recognize faces and objects better, too. Soon, they will be driving the weapons of

combat.

China appears determined to seize this AI "high ground" of future conflict. For the last two years, Chinese forces have won an AI competition for detecting objects. The Chinese are happy for the U.S. to keep building carriers and bombers, so long as they deploy the more advanced technologies that can disable those systems.

Richard Danzig, a former Navy secretary, published a brilliant paper discussed at the conference warning that as AI systems grow, the odds are that they will "reduce important new risks of loss of control." Humans must be "maximally thoughtful and creative" during design (and plan for failure), because these AI-driven weapons will have accidents and unintended consequences. Wise policymakers must avoid a "Dr. Strangelove" world of unsafe killer robots and doomsday machines.

America's vulnerability to information warfare was a special topic of concern. One participant recalled a conversation several years ago with a Russian general who taunted him: "You have a cybercommand, but no information operations. Don't you know that in information operations are how you take countries down?"

The Aspen Strategy Group is a devoutly bipartisan forum. But there was an intense discussion here of the issue that's vexing America this summer — the growing political polarization that's creating so much discord that it's becoming a national security problem.

As the gathering concluded Monday, Republicans and Democrats were equally passionate about spreading the message that this is a "Sputnik moment" for modernizing our military. Competing with a rising China begins at home, with a more nimble Pentagon and a country that is more united to face the big problems ahead.

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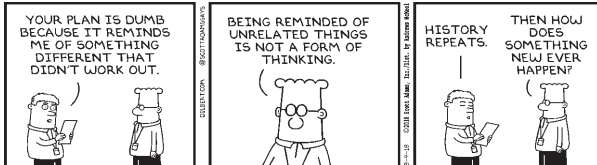
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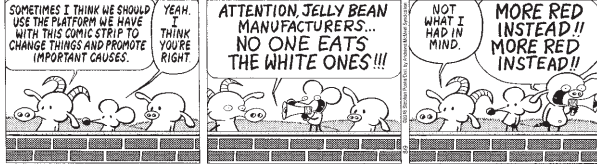
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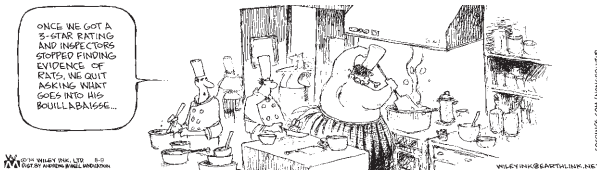
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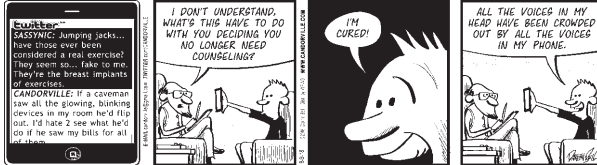
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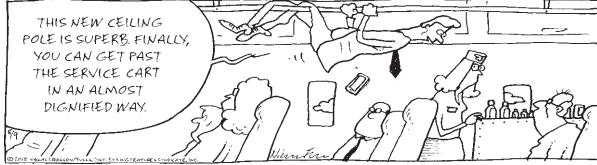
Non Sequitur



Candorville



Carpe Diem



Beetle Bailey



Bizarro



Eugene Sheffer Crossword

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11
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		38		39				40				
41	42						43			44	45	46
47					48	49	50					
51					52					53		
54					55					56		

ACROSS

- 1 Pear variety
- 2 Canyon sound
- 3 "Money — object"
- 4 Med. plan option
- 5 Pizza specification
- 6 Hostels
- 7 Stockpiles
- 8 Banks of baseball
- 9 21 White
- 10 22 Carries
- 11 Lascivious
- 12 Upper limit
- 13 Related
- 14 Packed away
- 15 Mimic
- 16 Chemical suffix
- 17 Hearing-impaired
- 18 Twitch
- 19 Winter fall
- 20 Barber's tool
- 21 Letters of approval?
- 22 Surplus
- 23 Sistine Chapel mural
- 24 "I'm not impressed"
- 25 Like delicate crepes
- 26 Half of bi-
- 27 Sulk
- 28 Doves' home

DOWN

- 1 "Little Women" sister
- 2 Twice cuatro
- 3 Actor LaBeouf
- 4 "Lord Jim" author
- 5 Evergreens
- 6 Buckeyes' sch.
- 7 ER workers
- 8 Sacred song
- 9 Super-sensitive nature
- 10 Hotel chain
- 11 Corn recipe
- 12 LPs' successors
- 13 Stephen of "Still Crazy"
- 14 Piglike mammal
- 15 Oil cartel
- 16 Young fellow
- 17 Paris summer
- 18 Become tiresome
- 19 Roman censor
- 20 Altar promise
- 21 Just out
- 22 Distant
- 23 Quick drawing
- 24 Rocker Frank
- 25 Hockey's Bobby
- 26 Flightless birds
- 27 TV's "Warrior Princess"
- 28 Greek salad cheese
- 29 "Scram!"
- 30 Refer to
- 31 Flightless birds
- 32 "You've got mail" ISP
- 33 Boxer

Answer to Previous Puzzle

B	E	E	P	C	A	N	S	W	A	T
R	A	V	E	L	I	U	C	O	P	A
O	V	E	R	W	O	R	K	O	R	S
S	E	R	I	E	S	E	V	O	K	E
L	E	I	S	I	T	S				
T	D	S		D	N	A		M	E	H
H	A	H	A		G	I	G	R	O	O
E	B	O	L	A		M	A	W		P
				P	I	N	T		M	E
E	S	T	A	T	E		B	E	R	A
L	E	A	S		T	A	L	K	O	V
S	A	L	E		O	N	E		M	E
A	S	K	S		N	E	D		A	R

8-9

CRYPTOQUIP

OZPVDR OVAJ RVXL MQVRI
KQIPI YR Z OUDYKH,

UVAAIT-DN NZRKHU OUPV XIM

IXLAZXT: "HZXJII RKUDTIA."

Yesterday's Cryptquip: WHEN THE POKER PLAYER'S LITTLE CHILD KEPT WHINING ANNOYINGLY FOR A SNACK, HE FED THE KIDDY.

Today's Cryptquip Clue: I equals E


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SCAM FADS

Classifieds scams can target both sellers and buyers with classifieds advertisements.

Be aware of the common red flags.
Some of the latest Scam fads are:

- Vehicle buyers wanting to buy sight unseen and have the vehicle shipped through an agent using paypal.
- People saying Free Dog (different breeds) for adoption.

Automotive 140

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Individuals placing classified advertising should use discretion in concluding the sale of their property. Not all potential buyers are reputable or honest. Stars and Stripes suggests that you take precautions to ensure that potential buyers are reputable and will be able to fulfill the terms of the sale. Stars and Stripes is not liable for the contractual relationship between sellers and buyers of merchandise advertised in the newspaper or on the web site.

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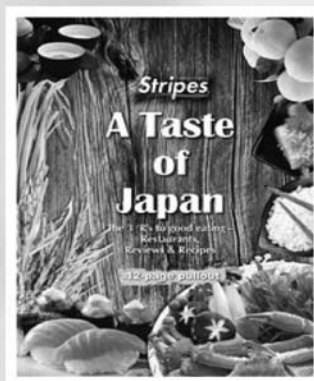
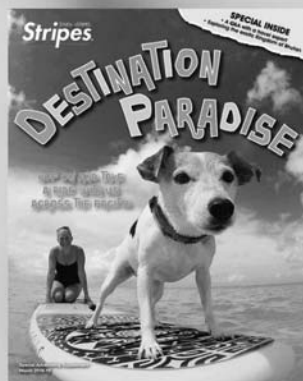
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College football

Amway Coaches Top 25

The preseason Amway Top 25 football poll, with first place in parentheses, 2017 records, total points based on 25 points for first place through one point 25th, and final ranking.

Rank	Team	Record	Pts	Pvs
1	Alabama (61)	12-1	1621	
2	Clemson (3)	12-2	1547	4
3	Ohio State (1)	12-2	1498	2
4	Georgia	12-3	1452	5
5	Michigan	12-3	1452	5
6	Washington	10-3	1245	15
7	Wisconsin	10-3	1245	15
8	Miami (Fla.)	10-3	1091	12
9	Penn State	11-2	1050	8
10	Auburn	10-4	1004	12
11	Notre Dame	10-3	892	11
12	Michigan State	10-3	876	18
13	Stanford	9-5	868	19
14	Michigan	8-5	752	20
15	North Carolina	11-1	701	10
16	TCU	11-3	530	9
17	Georgia Tech	9-4	407	20
18	Mississippi State	7-6	328	—
19	West Virginia	11-2	281	13
20	Texas	7-6	265	—
21	South Carolina	11-2	261	22
22	Central Florida	13-0	259	7
23	Arkansas	11-2	258	14
24	Oklahoma State	10-3	168	14

Other receiving votes: South Carolina 13; Florida 13; Oregon 10; Utah 8; Northwestern 6; Texas A&M 6; Kansas State 5; Florida Atlantic 2; Boston College 2; Memphis 2; North Carolina 2; Kansas 1; Kansas State 1; Washington 1; California 1; San Diego State 1; Iowa 1; Nevada State 1; Washington State 1; Southern State 1; Fresno State 1; Louisville 1; Arizona 2; Houston 2; Army 1; Northern Illinois 1.

Pro football

NFL preseason

Team	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Buffalo	0	0	0	0.000	0	0
Baltimore	0	0	0	0.000	0	0
Cincinnati	0	0	0	0.000	0	0
Cleveland	0	0	0	0.000	0	0
Dallas	0	0	0	0.000	0	0
Denver	0	0	0	0.000	0	0
Green Bay	0	0	0	0.000	0	0
Los Angeles	0	0	0	0.000	0	0
Minnesota	0	0	0	0.000	0	0
New England	0	0	0	0.000	0	0
New York	0	0	0	0.000	0	0
Indianapolis	0	0	0	0.000	0	0
Kansas City	0	0	0	0.000	0	0
Las Vegas	0	0	0	0.000	0	0
Los Angeles	0	0	0	0.000	0	0
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Las Vegas	0	0	0	0.000	0	0
Los Angeles	0	0	0	0.000	0	0
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New York	0	0	0	0.000	0	0
Indianapolis	0	0	0	0.000	0	0
Kansas City	0	0	0	0.000	0	0
Las Vegas	0	0	0	0.000	0	0
Los Angeles	0	0	0	0.000	0	0
Minnesota	0	0	0	0.000	0	0
New England	0	0	0	0.000	0	0
New York	0	0	0	0.000	0	0
Indianapolis	0	0	0	0.000	0	0
Kansas City	0	0	0	0.000	0	0
Las Vegas	0	0	0	0.000	0	0
Los Angeles	0	0	0	0.000	0	0
Minnesota	0	0	0	0.000	0	0
New England	0	0	0	0.000	0	0
New York	0	0	0	0.000	0	0
Indianapolis	0	0	0	0.000	0	0
Kansas City	0	0	0	0.000	0	0
Las Vegas	0	0	0	0.000	0	0
Los Angeles	0	0	0	0.000	0	0
Minnesota	0	0	0	0.000	0	0
New England	0	0	0	0.000	0	0
New York	0	0	0	0.000	0	0
Indianapolis	0	0	0	0.000	0	0
Kansas City	0	0	0	0.000	0	0
Las Vegas	0	0	0	0.000	0	0
Los Angeles	0	0	0	0.000	0	0
Minnesota	0	0	0	0.000	0	0
New England	0	0	0	0.000	0	0
New York	0	0	0	0.000	0	0
Indianapolis	0	0	0	0.000	0	0
Kansas City	0	0	0	0.000	0	0
Las Vegas	0	0	0	0.000	0	0
Los Angeles	0	0	0	0.000	0	0
Minnesota	0	0	0	0.000	0	0
New England	0	0	0	0.000	0	0
New York	0	0	0	0.000	0	0
Indianapolis	0	0	0	0.000	0	0
Kansas City	0	0	0	0.000	0	0
Las Vegas	0	0	0	0.000	0	0
Los Angeles	0	0	0	0.000	0	0
Minnesota	0	0	0	0.000	0	0
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Kansas City	0	0	0	0.000	0	0
Las Vegas	0	0	0	0.000	0	0
Los Angeles	0	0	0	0.000	0	0
Minnesota	0	0	0	0.000	0	0
New England	0	0	0	0.000	0	0
New York	0	0	0	0.000	0	0
Indianapolis	0	0	0	0.000	0	0
Kansas City	0	0	0	0.000	0	0
Las Vegas	0	0	0	0.000	0	0
Los Angeles	0	0	0	0.000	0	0
Minnesota	0	0	0	0.000	0	0
New England	0	0	0	0.000	0	0
New York	0	0	0	0.000	0	0
Indianapolis	0	0	0	0.000	0	0
Kansas City	0	0	0	0.000	0	0
Las Vegas	0	0	0	0.000	0	0
Los Angeles	0	0	0	0.000	0	0
Minnesota	0	0	0	0.000	0	0
New England	0	0	0	0.000	0	0

PGA CHAMPIONSHIP

Heat provides send-off for final PGA in August

By DOUG FERGUSON
Associated Press

ST. LOUIS

The PGA Championship finally found its identity. It's the one major where players are allowed to practice in shorts.

They might not need to next year.

This is the last year for the PGA Championship to be the final major. It will move to the middle of May and be held next year at Bethpage Black on Long Island. Based on the sweat pouring down faces — and legs — and drenched shirts Monday at Bellerive, next year will be a welcome reprieve.



CHARLIE RIEDEL/AP

Players are allowed to wear shorts while practicing for the PGA Championship, and Japan's Yusaku Miyazato made full use of the privilege during his practice round on Wednesday.



JEFF ROBERTSON/AP

New Zealand's Ryan Fox pauses for a drink during a practice round on Tuesday at Bellerive Country Club in St. Louis. This will be the last year the PGA Championship will be played in steamy August weather.

But it's not just the steamy heat of golf in August. The PGA Championship, which celebrates its 100th edition this year, is easy to get overlooked because it falls at the end of a busy schedule. Francesco Molinari, who opted for shorts on the first official day of practice, was hoisting the claret jug from his British Open victory just 15 days ago.

Justin Thomas could barely relish his first World Golf Championship title Sunday at Firestone when it was time to prepare for his title defense in the PGA Championship.

"I think it will be good for the vibe," Kevin Chappell said about the move to May. "It limits the golf courses we can play, which could be good or bad depending on your taste. The Open being the last one won't lose any pizzazz because it stands on its own. But this being the fourth major, and the third one in the U.S., it's easily overlooked."

This is a new course for most of the 156-man field, including the 20 club pros.

Only 15 players in the field have competed at Bellerive, either at the 1992 PGA Championship or the 2008 BMW Championship. That doesn't include Tiger Woods. He was at Bellerive and even played the course in practice for the 2001 American Express Championship, which was canceled because of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. He had knee surgery after winning the 2008 U.S. Open and missed the rest of the year.

It shouldn't matter, for him or anyone else.

Most players know what to expect — extreme heat, except when it was held at Whistling Straits north of Milwaukee — and a setup that is designed to test but not necessarily punish. It might look like a U.S. Open with the rough, but conditions typically are softer because of the summer heat and need to keep the greens alive.

"You know what you're going to get," Kevin Kisner said. "They're not going to put pins on 4-degree slopes and make you look stupid."

Jason Dufner missed out on qualifying for the World Golf Championship last week and arrived on the weekend, playing Saturday and Sunday with hardly anyone on the course. He got around quickly and planned to take it easy the rest of the week instead of wearing himself out.



DAVID DERMER/AP

Justin Thomas is the defending champion of the PGA Championship.

Milestones: Players unfamiliar with Bellerive

FROM BACK PAGE

Bellerive is a course Woods doesn't know very well, and he's not alone.

It last hosted the PGA Championship in 1992 when Nick Price won the first of his three majors. Bellerive also was the site of the BMW Championship in 2008, which Woods missed while recovering from knee surgery. Only 13 players from that event are in the field for the PGA.

Woods was last at Bellerive for the tournament it didn't host — the American Express Championship in 2001, canceled because of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. That was the only time Woods played the course, a Tuesday practice round with Mark Calcavecchia in which a PGA Tour security official was filling him in on the attacks as he played. Woods drove 17 hours home to Florida by himself the next day.

"Pretty much everything was a blur," he said when asked about his recollections of the golf course.

Justin Thomas is the defending champion and one of the few players who has seen Bellerive, back in June as part of his media promotion tour. Based on its spot on the schedule, the PGA Championship rarely allows time for players to get a preview.

The British Open ended on July 22, and players like world No. 1 Dustin Johnson and U.S. Open champion Brooks Koepka went straight to Canada, and then Ohio for a World Golf Championship. Woods was in Switzerland on a holiday.

"I contemplated going over to

Bellerive for a day and checking it out," Rory McIlroy said. "But I told myself I've never done it before for a PGA and I've won it a couple times and I played well. So why would I change what I've always done?"

Spith was in Spain after the British Open for his bachelor party and said he would see Bellerive when he arrived on Monday. He has heard a little about it and said he expected "a normal PGA."

Just what is normal?

"It's like a long, narrow, you've still got to shoot 10 to 14 under type of thing," Spith said. "The PGA reminds me of a few tour stops, like Congressional, and maybe a little bit like Akron. It's not as tricky, just really cool golf courses you're only going to see once every 10 years. A long, difficult PGA Tour course with longer rough."

Bellerive already has been the scene of one career Grand Slam.

That's where Gary Player won the 1965 U.S. Open to become the fourth player to sweep the four professional majors. Spith gets his second try. He won the British Open last summer, headed to Quail Hollow and could feel the attention on his bid to join the most elite group in golf. The feeling was fleeting. He was 11 shots behind going into the weekend and never got much closer.

"I'm more big picture," he said. "This (PGA) course changes every year. At some point, I'm going to be in form on a course that is good for me and the stars will line up and I'll have to execute coming the stretch. And it could be this year."

PGA CHAMPIONSHIP

Top contenders

**DUSTIN JOHNSON**

Age: 34.

Country: United States.

World ranking: 1.

Worldwide victories: 19.

2018 victories: Sentry Tournament of Champions, FedEx St. Jude Classic, RBC Canadian Open.**Major:** U.S. Open (2016).**2018 majors:** Masters-T10, U.S.

Open-3, British Open-MC.

PGA Championship appearances: 8.**Best result:** Tie for 5th in 2010 at Whistling Straits after two-shot penalty for grounding his club in a bunker on the 18th hole.**Backspin:** Hard to believe he still only has one major, and maybe that's due to change. Already has won three times this year and two other times had at least a share of the 54-hole lead. Believer is a tree-lined power course that should suit him well provided he doesn't try to force it, especially on the greens.**RICKIE FOWLER**

Age: 29.

Country: United States

World ranking: 9.

Worldwide victories: 8.

2018 victories: None.**Majors:** None.**2018 majors:** Masters-2, U.S. Open-T20, British Open-T28.**PGA Championship appearances:** 8. **Best result:** Tie for 3rd in 2014 at Valhalla, where he had a long eagle putt to force a playoff and three-putted for par.**Backspin:** This is his last chance to win a major in his 20s. The key is for him to get off to a good start, not only on Thursday but on Sunday if he's in contention. What has kept Fowler from winning majors is going backward on Sunday and making a charge when it's too late.**RORY MCILROY**

Age: 29

Country: Northern Ireland.

World ranking: 7.

Worldwide victories: 22.

2018 victories: Arnold Palmer Invitational.**Majors:** U.S. Open (2011), British Open (2014), PGA Championship (2012, 2014).**2018 majors:** Masters-T5, U.S. Open-MC, British Open-T2.**PGA Championship appearances:** 9. **Best result:** Won by 8 shots at Kiawah Island in 2012 and won by one shot at Valhalla in 2014.**Backspin:** Of players on the rise this year, McIlroy is closer than it might seem. He played in the final group at the Masters, and he was the only player to break par all four rounds at Carnoustie. Summer heat typically means soft conditions, which is typically right up his alley.**JORDAN SPIETH**

Age: 25.

Country: United States.

World ranking: 8.

Worldwide victories: 14.

2018 victories: None.**Majors:** Masters (2015), U.S. Open (2015), British Open (2017).**2018 majors:** Masters-3, U.S. Open-MC, British Open-T9.**PGA Championship appearances:** 5. **Best result:** Runner-up in 2015 at Whistling Straits.**Backspin:** This is his second chance to complete the career Grand Slam, and history shows that players with such an opportunity get it done sooner rather than later in the modern configuration of majors. Spieth's best two events this year were majors, and he lost a share of the 54-hole lead at the British Open. His game would appear to be trending upward after Carnoustie.**BROOKS KOEPPKA**

Age: 28.

Country: United States.

World ranking: 4.

Worldwide victories: 6.

2018 victories: U.S. Open.**Majors:** U.S. Open (2017, 2018).**2018 majors:** Masters-DNP, U.S.

Open-1, British Open-T39.

PGA Championship appearances: 5.**Best result:** Tie for 4th in 2016 at Baltusrol, where he was coming off an ankle injury and secured a spot on the Ryder Cup team.**Backspin:** He doesn't have as many worldwide wins as other multiple major champions, but Koepka plays his best in the biggest events. He has finished among the top 15 in 11 of his past 16 majors, and even at the British Open, he rallied from a 41 on the opening nine Thursday to get into the mix going into the weekend.**TIGER WOODS**

Age: 42.

Country: United States.

World ranking: 50.

Worldwide victories: 90.

2018 victories: None.**Majors:** Masters ('97, '01, '02, '05), U.S. Open ('00, '02, '08), British Open ('00, '05, '06), PGA Championship ('99, '00, '06, '07).**2018 majors:** Masters-T32, U.S.

Open-MC, British Open-T6.

PGA Championship appearances: 18.**Best result:** Won twice at Medinah by one shot ('99) and five shots ('06), in a playoff at Valhalla ('00) and by two shots at Southern Hills ('07).**Backspin:** Woods had the lead on Sunday at a major for the first time since '07 until one bad hole at the British Open derailed him, typical of other times he has contended in this remarkable year after a fourth back surgery. His performance at Carnoustie made believers of most people that he can win another major.**FRANCESCO MOLINARI**

Age: 35.

Country: Italy.

World ranking: 6.

Worldwide victories: 7.

2018 victories: BMW PGA Championship, Quicken Loans National, British Open.**Majors:** British Open (2018).**2018 majors:** Masters-T20, U.S.

Open-T25, British Open-1.

PGA Championship appearances: 9.**Best result:** A runner-up in 2017 at Quail Hollow by two shots despite a 73 in the first round and a 74 in the third round.**Backspin:** Will try to join Padraig Harrington as the only European to win the British Open and PGA Championship in the same year.

Molinari is the hottest player in the world and has a game for every course — Wentworth, the TPC Potomac and links golf at Carnoustie.

**JUSTIN ROSE**

Age: 38.

Country: England.

World ranking: 2.

Worldwide victories: 20.

2018 victories: Colonial.**Majors:** U.S. Open (2013).**2018 majors:** Masters-T12, U.S.

Open-T10, British Open-T2.

PGA Championship appearances: 15.**Best result:** Tie for 3rd at Kiawah Island in 2012, when he closed with a 66 to finish 9 shots behind. Has never seriously contended in the PGA.**Backspin:** Rose belongs in the category of Molinari and Johnson as players in the best form over the last nine months with four victories. Made an 18-foot birdie putt on the 36th hole at Carnoustie to make the cut and finished two shots behind to tie for second. Among the best drivers, though his putting can be suspect.**JUSTIN THOMAS**

Age: 25.

Country: United States.

World ranking: 3.

Worldwide victories: 9.

2018 victories: Honda Classic.**Majors:** PGA Championship (2017).**2018 majors:** Masters-T17, U.S.

Open-T25, British Open-MC.

PGA Championship appearances: 3.**Best result:** Won at Quail Hollow in 2017 with three key birdies on the back nine, including a 7-iron over the water on No. 17 to seal it.**Backspin:** He has achieved a goal of making his bad golf better, with only two finishes out of the top 25. One of them was a missed cut at the British Open, courtesy of three straight double bogeys on the front nine. He can join Woods as the only players to win back-to-back at the PGA Championship in stroke play.**PATRICK REED**

Age: 27.

Country: United States.

World ranking: 12.

Worldwide victories: 6.

2018 victories: Masters.**Majors:** Masters (2018).**2018 majors:** Masters-1, U.S. Open-4, British Open-T28.**PGA Championship appearances:** 4.**Best result:** A runner-up at Quail Hollow in 2017 when he closed with a 67 and came up a birdie short of applying pressure on Thomas.**Backspin:** He was tied for the lead briefly at the U.S. Open, but his run in the majors was slowed at Carnoustie. Reed tends to run hot-and-cold this year, with four missed cuts and a pair of runner-up finishes to go along with his green jacket. Not since Jack Nicklaus in 1975 has a player won the Masters and PGA in the same year.— Capsules by Doug Ferguson, AP
Photos courtesy of the PGA TourPurpose
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MLB SCOREBOARD

American League										National League									
East					Central					West					National League				
Team	W	L	Pct	GB	Team	W	L	Pct	GB	Team	W	L	Pct	GB	Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	70	34	.672	9	Minnesota	53	49	.517	10	Philadelphia	61	49	.555	1/2	St. Louis	51	50	.505	1
New York	68	40	.625	9	Chicago	52	50	.510	10	Pittsburgh	58	52	.524	1	Arizona	63	54	.539	1
Tampa Bay	57	56	.504	22 1/2	Kansas City	41	72	.363	21 1/2	Miami	47	68	.409	18	Los Angeles	63	52	.548	1/2
Toronto	51	61	.455	28	Cleveland	53	49	.517	9	San Francisco	57	58	.496	6 1/2	San Diego	57	58	.496	6 1/2
Baltimore	49	63	.437	31	Minnesota	53	49	.517	9	San Francisco	57	58	.496	6 1/2	San Diego	57	58	.496	6 1/2
Chicago	49	63	.437	31	Minnesota	53	49	.517	9	San Francisco	57	58	.496	6 1/2	San Diego	57	58	.496	6 1/2
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Minnesota	53	49	.517	9	Minnesota	53	49	.517	9	San Francisco	57	58	.496	6 1/2	San Diego	57	58	.496	6 1/2
Seattle	65	49	.570	7 1/2	Minnesota	53	49	.517	9	San Francisco	57	58	.496	6 1/2	San Diego	57	58	.496	6 1/2
Los Angeles	65	49	.570	7 1/2	Minnesota	53	49	.517	9	San Francisco	57	58	.496	6 1/2	San Diego	57	58	.496	6 1/2
San Diego	50	65	.435	23	Minnesota	53	49	.517	9	San Francisco	57	58	.496	6 1/2	San Diego	57	58	.496	6 1/2
					Minnesota	53	49	.517	9	San Francisco	57	58	.496	6 1/2	San Diego	57	58	.496	6 1/2

Braves 3, Nationals 1										Padres 11, Brewers 5									
East					Central					West					National League				
Team	W	L	Pct	GB	Team	W	L	Pct	GB	Team	W	L	Pct	GB	Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	70	34	.672	9	Minnesota	53	49	.517	10	Philadelphia	61	49	.555	1/2	St. Louis	51	50	.505	1
New York	68	40	.625	9	Chicago	52	50	.510	10	Pittsburgh	58	52	.524	1	Arizona	63	54	.539	1
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					Minnesota	53	49	.517	9	San Francisco	57	58	.496	6 1/2	San Diego	57	58	.496	6 1/2

Red Sox 10, Blue Jays 7 (10)										Minnesota									
East					Central					West					National League				
Team	W	L	Pct	GB	Team	W	L	Pct	GB	Team	W	L	Pct	GB	Team	W	L	Pct	GB
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San Diego	50	65	.435	23	Minnesota	53	49	.517	9	San Francisco	57	58	.496	6 1/2	San Diego	57	58	.496	6 1/2
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MLB

Dodgers snap Athletics' six-game streak

Hill earns victory over former team

By JANIE MCCAULEY
Associated Press

OAKLAND, Calif. — Rich Hill played just long enough for the Oakland Athletics two years ago to get a feel for how they can come back when it's close and win in the late innings, a signature of his former club this season.

Hill pitched effectively into the sixth inning to beat his old team for the first time, while the offense manufactured runs to lead the Los Angeles Dodgers past the A's 4-2 on Tuesday night to snap Oakland's six-game winning streak.

"That's the theme of this entire team is that everybody comes up to play every single day and we grind it out," Hill said. "We don't have many easy wins. I don't think any wins are easy but we don't have many wins where we put up 20."

Hill (5-4) allowed two runs, three hits and four walks while striking out five over 5 1/3 innings. He is 3-1 with a 3.12 ERA in eight road starts.

The left-hander hadn't defeated the A's previously in five appearances and one start. He won nine games for Oakland in 2016 before being dealt to the Dodgers.

Khris Davis hit a two-run homer in the sixth — his 32nd — to get the A's back in it and chase Hill. But the Dodgers put



D. ROSS CAMERON/AP

The Los Angeles Dodgers' Cody Bellinger, right, slides safely under the tag of Athletics third baseman Matt Chapman during the third inning of Tuesday's game in Oakland, Calif. Bellinger went from first to third on a single by Yasiel Puig.

up a key insurance run on Matt Kemp's RBI single in the seventh that followed a leadoff double by pinch-hitter Joe Pederson. Kemp ended an 0-for-10 funk.

"To get a knock and drive in a run I know he was pretty relieved," manager Dave Roberts said.

No late-inning magic or dramatic

finish for the home team this time.

The Dodgers took a 1-0 lead against Sean Manaea (10-8) in the first on Enrique Hernandez's

RBI groundout. Los Angeles added a run on Austin Barnes' second-inning sacrifice bunt then Cody Bellinger's RBI single in the third.

Scoreboard

FROM PAGE 28

Dodgers 4, Athletics 2

Los Angeles					Oakland				
	ab	r	h	bi		ab	r	h	bi
B.Dzierzb	2	0	1	0	M.Semien	ss	4	0	0
M.McChes	ss	5	1	1	M.Chapm	3b	4	1	1
Ju.Terrero	3b	5	1	2	L.Lowe	2b	3	0	0
K.Hirman	cf	3	0	0	K.Davis	ph	4	1	2
Pederson ph-1f					C.Kinsler	1b	3	0	0
M.Kemp	dh	4	0	1	M.Martini	ph	1	0	0
C.Tyler lf-cf					M.Olson	4b	4	0	0
Blinger lb					P.Scott rf				
Puig	rf	4	0	2	P.Pederson	rf	2	0	0
A.Barnes c					Lucroy c				
Grandal ph	1	0	0	0					
Totals	34	9	4	2	Totals	30	2	4	2
Los Angeles	111	000	100	4	Los Angeles	000	002	000	2
DP—Los Angeles 1, Oakland 1					LOB—Los Angeles 11, Oakland 5				
LOB—Los Angeles 11, Oakland 5					M.Machado (44), Ju.Turner (9), Pederson (22), M.Chapman (22), P.Scott (29), HR—K.Davis (32), SB—Puig (8), S—A.Barnes (1).				

Los Angeles	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Hill W-4	5 1/3	3	2	2	4	5
Flore H-6	1 1/3	0	0	0	0	1
Alexander H-16	1 1/3	1	0	0	0	2
Chapman H-16	1	0	0	0	0	1
Jensen S-25	1	0	0	0	0	1
Oakland	2 1/3	5	3	3	3	3
Manaea L-10	2 1/3	5	3	3	3	3
Pagan	2 1/3	0	0	0	1	3
Buchter	1 1/3	0	0	0	1	3
Kelly	1 1/3	0	0	0	1	3
Pettit	2	0	0	0	1	1
Familla	1	0	0	0	1	1

*3-321. A—33,654 (46,765).

Calendar

Aug. 31 — Last day to be contracted to an organization and be eligible for post-season roster.
Oct. 2-3 — Wild-card games.
Oct. 4 — Division Series start.
Oct. 12 — League Championship Series start.
Oct. 23 — World Series starts.
November 1-8 — Deadline for teams to make qualifying offers to their eligible former players who became free agents, fifth day after World Series.

Roundup

Colon becomes winningest Latin pitcher

Associated Press

ARLINGTON, Texas — Bartolo Colon became the top-winning pitcher born in Latin America, punctuating his 246th career victory with a nifty snag as the Texas Rangers roughed up Felix Hernandez and the Seattle Mariners 11-4 on Tuesday night.

The 45-year-old Colon, from the Dominican Republic, made his sixth start since earning his 245th win on June 30 that matched the mark held by Dennis Martinez from Nicaragua.

Colon (6-10) gave up four runs in seven innings. The portly and popular right-hander struck out one and walked none.

Angels 11, Tigers 5: Shohei Ohtani hit a three-run homer during a seven-run first inning, and host Los Angeles celebrated Mike Trout's 27th birthday with a victory over Detroit.

Pirates 10, Rockies 2: Jameson Taillon (9-8) beat Chad Bettis (5-2) in a matchup of pitchers who battled testicular cancer last year, and visiting Pittsburgh hit three homers to beat Colorado.

Nationals 8-1, Braves 3-3: Ender Inciarte snapped a ninth-inning tie with a two-run triple, helping visiting Atlanta to a doubleheader split.

In the opener, Bryce Harper and Ryan Zimmerman hit consecutive homers to spark a four-run fourth inning that carried Washington to the victory.



BRANDON WADE/AP

Rangers starting pitcher Bartolo Colon earned his 246th career victory in Tuesday's 11-4 victory over Seattle in Arlington, Texas.

Yankees 4, White Sox 3 (13): Miguel Andujar hit a tiebreaking RBI single in the 13th inning, sending visiting New York past Chicago.

Red Sox 10, Blue Jays 7 (10): Mitch Moreland hit a three-run homer during his team's five-run 10th inning, and visiting Boston earned its fifth straight win by beating Toronto.

Cardinals 3, Marlins 2: Matt Carpenter hit his 30th homer for visiting St. Louis, a tiebreaking drive in the eighth inning that helped beat Miami.

Twins 3, Indians 2: Fernando Rodney struck out Francisco Lindor with the tying run on second base in the ninth inning, helping visiting Minnesota beat Cleveland.

Phillies 5, Diamondbacks 2: Nick Pavetta (7-9) threw six scoreless innings and Nick Williams homered to power visiting Philadelphia past Arizona.

Cubs 5, Royals 0: Mike Montgomery (4-4) pitched five-hit ball into the seventh inning and David Bote drove in a career-high three runs, leading visiting Chicago past Kansas City.

Padres 11, Brewers 5: Manuel Margot homered, tripled, singled and drove in five runs, powering visiting San Diego past Milwaukee.

Astros 2, Giants 1: Tyler White hit a two-run homer in the eighth inning, helping visiting Houston put together another late rally to beat San Francisco.

Rays 4, Orioles 3: Willy Adames hit a solo homer with two out in the ninth inning, lifting host Tampa Bay over Baltimore.

Reds 6, Mets 1: Cincinnati's Sal Romano (7-9) got the win in his New York homecoming, pitching into the seventh inning in a game delayed by rain for 1 hour, 40 minutes in the first.

NFL

Cowboys' Moore makes quick audible

Former backup ends playing career to become quarterbacks coach for Dallas

By SCHUYLER DIXON
Associated Press

OXNARD, Calif. — Kellen Moore's college coach heard from his former quarterback while Moore was thinking about trading his helmet for a whistle.

The next thing Chris Petersen knew, Moore was in charge of Dak Prescott as quarterbacks coach of the Dallas Cowboys not too long after sitting third on the depth chart behind the 2016 NFL offensive rookie of the year.

"When I heard that, I think, 'Really? You're sitting next to the guys and now you've got the chalk and you're telling them exactly what to do?'" said Petersen, now at Washington after coaching Moore at Boise State. "It's not like he played for a long, long time in the NFL. I think all those things just speak to how rare he is and how special he is."

Nobody close to Moore is surprised he ended up in coaching. They've been saying that about him since he was winning high school state championships under his dad, Tom Moore, in Washington. The only surprise is that his younger brother, Fresno State receivers coach Kirby Moore, beat him into coaching by several years.

That's because Kellen Moore's NFL career lasted six years despite playing only three regular-season games after going 50-3 as the starter at Boise State.

Two years ago, Moore went into training camp as the backup to Tony Romo before breaking an ankle in practice. Because of that injury, Prescott became the starter when Romo injured his back in a preseason game.

The Cowboys ran off a franchise-record 11 straight victories that season, forcing Romo to concede the job to Prescott before retiring to go into broadcasting. Moore was a backup again, this time behind Prescott, before losing that job to rookie Cooper Rush last season.

Retirement was on Moore's mind when the Cowboys decided not to bring back Wade Wilson, who coached Dallas quarterbacks the previous 10 years. Moore, who turned 30 in July, decided the time was right.

"There's nothing like playing," said Moore, who started two



GUS Ruelas/AP

Dallas Cowboys quarterbacks coach Kellen Moore, left, quarterback Dak Prescott and offensive coordinator Scott Linehan, right, talk things over during training camp on July 28 in Oxnard, Calif. Two seasons ago, Moore was Prescott's backup.

games at the end of a lost 2015 season marred by Romo's twice-broken collarbone. "Certainly wasn't planning on something like this opening. When the opportunity presented itself, felt like it was a really good opportunity. Hard to turn down."

As for running meetings so soon after sitting next to Prescott in the QB room, the understated Moore shrugs.

"You talk a little bit more in meetings. That's about it," he said. "I think simply it's a collaborative effort in that room. We're all trying to achieve the same things. One quarterback plays at

a time. Do everything you can to help that guy succeed."

Moore's transition has been eased by his relationship with offensive coordinator Scott Linehan, who had the same job in Detroit when the Lions signed Moore as an undrafted free agent in 2012.

He never took a regular-season snap with the Lions, and came to Dallas a year after Linehan was hired. They share roots in Washington state — their home-towns are 15 miles apart — and a reserved demeanor that Linehan believes plays well with most quarterbacks.

"They didn't even blink," Linehan said of Moore's teammates-turned-understudies.

"The respect is there, the whole just understanding that that's not an easy transformation for a lot of people. But they also knew that Kellen, there's nobody that takes more diligent preparation and notes and prepares as a player."

Moore can relate to his head coach, too, since Jason Garrett did the same thing 13 years ago. The former backup to three-time Super Bowl winner Troy Aikman in Dallas, Garrett's career ended with Tampa Bay and Miami in 2004. In no time — two weeks, Garrett said — he was Nick Saban's quarterbacks coach with the Dolphins.

"Often times as players, we sit back and we have all the answers but someone else is running the show," Garrett said. "When you click into being a coach, you have to have the answers from A to Z. And you have to be really thorough on how you teach all different guys in the room and all different guys on the field."

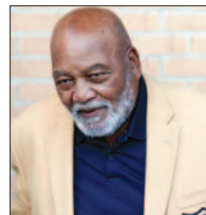
The most important guy is Prescott, but even that won't really be new to Moore. Since his injury sidelined him all of 2016, Moore was a de facto coach for a first-year player navigating the sudden success of a 13-win season before the Cowboys lost to Green Bay in a divisional playoff game.

Moore said that season got him to thinking about the next phase of his career. Because of that season, Prescott doesn't feel much of a change.

"Obviously he's being vocal. He's being more of a coach," Prescott said. "He's always been there teaching me the game, teaching me different things about the defense and the offense. But now that's his job. He's done a great job in the film room, on the field."

While agreeing that the move is unusual, Petersen also sees it as logical.

"He has paid attention like a coach," Petersen said. "He's so laser-focused on the mental part of things. He knows that system inside and out. It's not like he's learning a new system and all this. He can tell them exactly like this is what you do. I think it's pretty smart by the Cowboys."



RON SCHWANE/AP

Former NFL player Jim Brown, 82, fought for social change during his Hall of Fame career, and his activism continued in retirement.

Hall of Famer Brown says he'd never kneel during national anthem

By TOM WITHERS
Associated Press

CLEVELAND — Jim Brown has spent much of his post-NFL career fighting for social justice and change.

However, the Hall of Fame running back would never kneel during the national anthem.

Brown, 82, who championed civil rights during his playing career and became an activist in retirement, said Tuesday night that he respects players' rights to do what they want but his preference is what they would stand during "The Star-Spangled Banner."

"I'll never kneel and I will always respect the flag," said Brown, who spoke before an HBO premiere of "Hard Knocks," which is chronicling the Cleveland Browns in training camp.

Brown was asked how he would resolve the anthem issue, which has plagued the league for two years.

"Well, if you take the bottom line, what are we talking about? We're talking about freedom to express one's self, and if you don't break any rules then you have that particular right," he said.

"I am not going to denigrate my flag and I'm going to stand for the national anthem. I'm fighting with all of my strength to make it a better country, but I don't think that's the issue. Because what is the top side? Are you not going to stand up? This is our country, man."

"We work hard to make it better and that's my attitude, so I don't relate to the issue because it's newsworthy because where are your superstars? And where are they at? Aren't they making comments?"

Protests during the anthem have enveloped the league since former San Francisco quarterback Colin Kaepernick took a knee to protest social injustice.

The NFL modified its anthem protocol in May, prohibiting demonstrations for 2018, but allowing players to remain in the locker room during the anthem.

The players' union filed a grievance, and the change has been tabled while the NFL and NFLPA work on a resolution.

Rodgers frustrated with effort from some young Packers

Associated Press

GREEN BAY, Wis. — Aaron Rodgers expressed disappointment with the effort from some of the Green Bay Packers' younger players after a frustrating period at practice.

It appears that some of the rookie wideouts are the focus of his displeasure.

Rodgers was running the scout team during practice Tuesday, a sign that he likely won't be playing in the Packers' preseason opener against the Tennessee Titans on Thursday.

Younger players who normally might not get many reps with Rodgers got a chance to

work more with the two-time NFL MVP.

There is some work to catch up to Rodgers' high standards.

"It was one of the worst cards sessions we've had. I don't know how you can make it any simpler," Rodgers said Tuesday after practice. He was referring to how coaches will hold up an opponent's play during the period.

"You literally have what the play would be in our terminology on the card, and the effort level was very low. Especially with what I'm accustomed to. I've been running that period for a number of years," Rodgers said. "So it's

not a good start for us on the card period for the young guys."

Rodgers is usually more diplomatic in front of reporters. He didn't call out players by name, but he singled out those he feels are role models, such as veterans Davante Adams, Randall Cobb and Jimmy Graham.

Rodgers liked how Geronimo Allison and DeAngelo Yancey, younger receivers who have previous experience with Rodgers, have progressed. He also has gone out of his way to praise the work of Jake Kumerow, a second-year undrafted free agent.

SPORTS BRIEFS/COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Briefly

Blackhawks icon Mikita dies at 78

Associated Press

CHICAGO — Stan Mikita, the hockey great who helped the Chicago Blackhawks to the 1961 Stanley Cup title while becoming one of the franchise's most revered figures, died Tuesday. He was 78.

Mikita's family announced his death in a statement released by the team. No further details were provided, but the Hall of Famer had been in poor health after being diagnosed with a brain disorder called Lewy body dementia.

Mikita spent his entire career with Chicago, beginning with his NHL debut in 1959 and running through his retirement after playing 17 games in the 1979-80 season. He is the franchise's career leader for assists (926), points (1,467) and games played (1,394), and is second to former teammate Bobby Hull with 541 goals.

Mikita remains the only NHL player in history to win the Art Ross (scoring champion), Hart (MVP) and Lady Byng (sportsmanship) trophies in the same season, and he accomplished the feat in consecutive years in 1967 and 1968. He became the first player to have his jersey retired by the Blackhawks in 1980, and was inducted into the Hall of Fame three years later.

Mikita and the Blackhawks played for the Stanley Cup again in 1962, but lost to Toronto in six games. They also lost in the finals in 1965, 1971 and 1973 despite continued postseason success for Mikita, who tops the franchise playoff lists for assists (91), points (150) and games (155).

In other hockey news:

■ Wayne Gretzky has been named a global ambassador for Beijing's Kunlun Red Star as the Chinese capital seeks to boost the profile of hockey domestically ahead of hosting the Winter Olympics in 2022. For the second year, the NHL is holding promotional games in China, with the Boston Bruins and Calgary Flames facing off in Shenzhen on Sept. 15 and Beijing on Sept. 19.

Yanks OF Ellsbury out after hip surgery

NEW YORK — New York Yankees outfielder Jacoby Ellsbury is out for the season after surgery on his left hip. The Yankees said Tuesday that Ellsbury had arthroscopic surgery to repair a torn labrum the previous day. The expected recovery time is about six months. Ellsbury, 34, has been out all season with injuries.

■ Boston Red Sox ace Chris Sale is scheduled to come off the 10-day disabled list and start against the Baltimore Orioles on Sunday. Sale (11-4) has not pitched since July 27 because of mild left shoulder inflammation. The team's roster of 26 players will be on display for the 2019



Stan Mikita, standing before a likeness of himself at the United Center in Chicago in 2011, spent his entire 22-year career with the Chicago Blackhawks.

All-Star Game. Inspired by the city's deep musical history, the team unveiled the logo for next year's game — a red-white-and-blue guitar with a body bordered with baseball stitching.

■ Pittsburgh Pirates minor leaguers Kevin Newman and Jacob Stallings completed cycles for the Triple-A Indianapolis Indians in a 12-5 victory over the Lehigh Valley IronPigs on Tuesday night in Indianapolis. This was the second time minor league teammates hit for the cycle in the same game this season. Giants prospects Gio Bruna and Jalen Miller did it for Class A San Jose in April. The feat has never been accomplished in the majors.

Browns rookie WR cited for pot possession

BEREA, Ohio — Cleveland Browns rookie Antonio Callaway has been cited for marijuana possession, the latest drama involving one of the team's receivers.

Callaway was pulled over in his car by Strongsville, Ohio, police at 2:59 a.m. on Sunday. According to a police report, Callaway failed to yield to oncoming traffic and a "small amount" of marijuana was found under Callaway's seat.

Callaway also was driving with a suspended license.

Callaway's incident came hours before the Browns traded disappointing receiver Corey Coleman to Buffalo. Also, the team is without former All-Pro Josh Gordon, who is dealing with health issues and not in training camp. Gordon was suspended multiple times between 2014 and 2017 due to failed drug tests.



JOSHUA L. JONES, ATHENS BANNER-HERALD/AP

The momentum from Georgia's successful 2017 season continues to grow, as coach Kirby Smart's top-ranked 2018 recruiting class, which included quarterback Justin Fields, above, has been followed by more highly rated commitments for 2019.

Bulldogs build on 2017

Georgia coach Smart parlays successful season into recruiting gold

By CHARLES ODUM

Associated Press

ATHENS, Ga. — Momentum created by Georgia's 2017 success has helped Kirby Smart reload for another championship run.

After Georgia landed the nation's top-rated signing class in February, Smart's recruiting roll has continued. He's adding more big-name recruits from all around the country as he continues to chase the Bulldogs' first national championship since 1980.

Smart and his assistant coaches have taken advantage of Georgia's breakthrough 2017 season that included the Southeastern Conference title and a loss to Alabama in the national championship game.

That's why Smart proclaimed at the SEC's annual media gathering last month "The momentum we created from last season has been tremendous for us through recruiting."

According to the 247 Sports Composite ranking, Georgia is No. 1 on the 2019 recruiting list, one spot ahead of Alabama.

Independence (Kan.) Community College defensive end Jermaine Johnson, ranked by 247 Sports as the nation's top junior college player, said last week he will sign with the Bulldogs. Last month, Georgia received a commitment from defensive tackle Travon Walker, a five-star prospect from Thomaston, Ga. Earlier this year, five-star defensive end Nolan Smith, from Bradenton, Fla., announced his plans to sign with the Bulldogs.

Verbal commitments are nonbinding.

Among seven five-star signees in this year's freshman class are quarterback Justin Fields and tailback Zamir White. Fields and White could earn immediate playing time and might challenge for starting roles this season.

Fields signed with Georgia even though Jake Fromm seemed so entrenched at quarterback that Jacob Eason, who opened last season as the starter, transferred to Washington.

Similar to White and freshman James Cook were not afraid to challenge a group of returning tail-



Smart

backs that includes D'Andre Swift, Elijah Holyfield and Brian Herrien.

Smart says today's top recruits don't dodge competition for playing time. Instead, they're drawn to the chance to play for a title.

"To me if you recruit the right kind of kid, he's saying, 'Can you win a championship? I want to win a championship. It's really im-

portant that I win a championship,'" Smart said Friday. "Those are the kind of kids you want in your organization. You want guys who want to win championships. You want guys who want to be the best they can be. Does that necessarily mean they play every snap as a freshman? Not necessarily."

Strong recruiting leads to strong competition, and Georgia reloaded with impressive depth after having six players picked in this year's NFL Draft.

Linebacker Roquan Smith, offensive lineman Isaiah Wynn and tailbacks Nick Chubb and Sony Michel were among the most significant losses. There might not be any players on the 2018 roster as talented as Smith or Wynn, but Smart likes having lots of options to replace the lost starters.

"We'll have the greatest competition we've had since my arrival," said Smart, entering his third season.

Fields and other newcomers are eager to prove they belong. Fields enrolled early for spring practice and had an impressive Sanford Stadium debut in the spring game. The Fields-led Black team, which included Georgia's No. 1 defense, beat Fromm's Red team, with the No. 1 offense, 21-13.

Smart already has proved a point with recruits. By starting freshmen quarterbacks each of the past two years, the message to recruits is clear: The path to playing time is not based on seniority.

SPORTS



End of the streak
Dodgers hand Athletics first loss
in seven games » **MLB, Page 29**



PGA CHAMPIONSHIP

Milestones

Tournament celebrates 100
as Tiger goes for 15th major

By DOUG FERGUSON
Associated Press

The PGA Championship has all the trappings of a big celebration this year.

Thanks to a Sunday afternoon on the other side of the Atlantic, it feels even bigger.

This is the 100th edition of the only major championship restricted to professionals, and it's a farewell to the muggy heat of summer. The PGA Championship is leaving its August date after some 40 years and moving to May. Jordan Spieth was always sure to get plenty of attention as he gets a second crack at trying to complete the career Grand Slam, a feat achieved by only five other players, never at the PGA Championship.

And now Tiger Woods is in focus like never before.

Just the sight of his name atop the leaderboard in the final round of the British Open, even if it was there alone for only about 30 minutes, was enough to turn cynics into cheerleaders. Woods has gone 10 years, five surgeries and one divorce since his last major. He started the year with uncertainty about his health and his swing. He reaches the final major without a victory, but with a game that suggests another trophy — even the biggest variety — might not be far off.

Inside:

- Breakdown of top contenders, Page 27
- Final time players will have to tolerate steamy August heat, Page 26

He finished one shot behind at the Valparaiso Championship in March. He finished three shots behind at Carnoustie.

"I think that I went from just hoping to be able to play the tour," Woods said. "Now that I feel that I can play the tour, I certainly can win again. I've had an opportunity to win a couple times this year. I had a great chance at Valparaiso early in the year, and even a week ago (at the British Open) I had a great shot at it. Yeah, my game has gotten better and good enough where I feel like I can win again."

The PGA Championship returns to Bellerive Country Club in St. Louis, and a victory for Woods would be his fifth Wanamaker Trophy, tying the record held by Jack Nicklaus and Walter Hagen, and his 15th major championship.

SEE MILESTONES ON PAGE 26



CHARLIE RIEDEL, ABOVE, AND JEFF ROBERSON, RIGHT/AP

Above: Tiger Woods watches a shot on the third green Tuesday during a practice round for the PGA Championship at Bellerive Country Club in St. Louis. It's been 10 years since Woods won his last major. Right: Jordan Spieth needs only a PGA Championship title to complete the career Grand Slam.



Jim Brown wades into NFL's anthem argument » Page 30

